

BATMAN No.16

10¢



APRIL-MAY

BATMAN

SURPRISE!
SOMEBODY LEARNS THE TRUE
IDENTITIES OF BATMAN & ROBIN!
WHO CAN HE BE?



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

YOU HAVE HEARD THAT THE SAVAGE LEOPARD CANNOT CHANGE ITS SPOTS, NOR THE CARRION-EATING VULTURE BECOME A GENTLE DOVE... BUT AS YOU TURN THE PAGES OF THIS STORY, YOU MAY BEGIN TO HAVE YOUR DOUBTS! FOR THAT JEERING APE,

THE JOKER-- THAT CRAFTY CLOWN OF CRIME, THAT GRINNING GARGOYLE OF GREED-- SUDDENLY FORSAKES HIS EVIL WAYS TO BECOME NOT ONLY AN HONEST, UPRIGHT CITIZEN, BUT A FIERCE BOB OF WRONGS, DOES AS WELL!...

READ ON-- AND SHARE THE THRILLING, SPINE-CHILLING ADVENTURES OF THOSE BEN-IGNANTAL CRIME-CRUSHERS, BATMAN AND ROBIN, AS THEY BATTLE THROUGH THE PITFALLS OF PERIL AND MALES OF MYSTERY WHEN--

THE JOKER REFORMS!

BOB
KANE

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
OUR HERO ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
THE MOST HONEST MAN IN TOWN



HOTEL



THIS IS THE LAZY LITTLE TOWN OF
HALL CORNERS, HIDDEN DEEP IN THE
WILDS OF THE OZARK MOUNTAINS...

AND THIS IS A STRANGER IN
TOWN--A TALL, TRAVEL WORN,
WAYFARER WHOSE BUSINESS
IS WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

THIS
WILL PROBABLY
BE THE BIGGEST
CASE THE CON-
STABLE HAS EVER
WORKED ON...

EXCUSE ME, MY
GOOD MAN--CAN
YOU DIRECT ME
TO THE CHIEF
OF POLICE?

RECKON YUH
MEAN JEB
JOHNSON.
TH' CONSTA-
BULE...PLAYIN'
CHECKERS WITH
SAM UPSON IN
TH' SIOBE

OS-BEAL
STORE AND POST
OFFICE
SHEPHERDSON
OWNERS

ARE
YOU CONSTABLE
JEB
JOHNSON?

YEP,
YOUNG FELLER--
BUT I'M RIGHT
BUSY NOW!

HEH, HEH!
LOOKS LIKE I
GOT YB BEAT,
JEB!

IF YOU COULD SPARE A MINUTE
FROM YOUR GAME TO LOOK
THESE OVER...

JUMPIN'
TOAD--PROGS--
DIAMONDS!

AN
EMERALDS--AN'
RUBIES--AN'
PEARLS!

THIS
PAPER WAS WITH THE
JEWELS! THEY MUST BE
THE LOOT FROM THAT
ROBBERY IN GOTHAM
CITY!

HOLD ON,
STRANGER! WHERE'D
YOU GET THIS STUFF?
WHO ARE YUH?

I FOUND THEM NEAR A PLANE
THAT CRASHED AND BURNED
A FEW MILES AWAY! I NEVER
HEARD OF THE JOKER OR THE
BATMAN, BUT I FIGURED IT
WAS A MATTER FOR THE
POLICE! AS FOR
ME, I'M--
ER--
BO SMITH!

WAIT A MINUTE! WHERE
HAVE WE SEEN THESE
LEERING FEATURES BE-
FORE--THESE GRINNING,
CRIMSON LIPS, THESE
GLITTERING EYES, AUYS
WITH SATANIC DANNING?
...WHY, IT'S THE JOKER
HIMSELF--UNDYING ENEMY
OF THE MIGHTY BATMAN!
BUT AGAIN, WAIT! IS IT
POSSIBLE THAT THIS
BREEZY CLOWN OF CRIME
--THE HARLEQUIN OF HATE
--IS ACTUALLY AIDING
THE FORCES OF LAW AND
ORDER, SURRENDERING HIS
SPOILS TO THE POLICE?

PERHAPS, AFTER ALL, WE SHOULD HAVE STARTED OUR TALE WITH A BRIEF BUT BITTER BATTLE THAT TOOK PLACE IN FAR-OFF GOTHAM CITY THE PRECEDING EVENING...



LOOKS LIKE THIS IS YOUR LAST JOB, JOKER!

THE BATMAN!

SWIFTER AND MORE ACCURATE THAN THE CRIMINALS' BULLETS, THE FLASHING SISTS OF THE BATMAN AND ROBIN FIND UNWILLING TARGETS...



YOU KNOW, KITE, YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE ABOUT TO TAKE OFF!

THIS OUGHT TO TAKE THE WIND OUT OF YOUR SAILS!

LAUGH, CLOWNS, LAUGH! YOU'LL BE CRYING IN A SECOND! HA, HA!

BOOF!

GOFF!

BUT THE JOKER'S EVIL BAG OF TRICKS CONTAINS ONE THAT TURNS THE TIDE TEMPORARILY AGAINST JUSTICE...

WHA--? AN AMMONIA BOMB?

COME, FRIENDS THE GETAWAY CAR IS WAITING!

THAT CLEVER FIEND HAS DONE IT AGAIN!

I THINK ONE OF THEM DROPPED THIS SCRAP OF PAPER... BUT MY EYES ARE BURNING! I CAN'T READ WHAT'S ON IT!



MORNING FINDS A PLANE DRONING WESTWARD OVER A MOUNTAINOUS WILDERNESS...

HA, HA! I SHOWED THE BATMAN I WAS TOO SMART FOR HIM! EH, BOYS?

ME, THE BRAINIEST CRIMINAL ON EARTH--AND YOU THREE, THE MOST SKILLFUL OPERATORS IN THE UNDERWORLD! WE'VE HAD A LOT OF FUN, HAVEN'T WE, SPARKY?

I'LL HAVE MORE FUN WHEN I GET TO WHERE YOU CACHED THE SWAG, AND I GET MY SHARE!



YOU SURE, DIS JOKER! WITH THESE ROCKS AN' TH' STUFF FROM OUR OTHER JOBS, WE'LL BE MILLIONAIRES!

WE'LL BE THERE IN JUST A FEW MINUTS AND --- WHAT'S THIS? THE ENGINE'S GETTING READY TO QUIT!

WHAT A SPOT FOR A FORCED LANDING! WE'D NEVER MAKE IT!



QUICK --- BAIL OUT IN YOUR CHUTES!... I'LL HOLD HER STEADY TILL YOU'VE SOGG, AND THEN I'LL FOLLOW YOU!

CHES---I DON'T MIND SHOOTING IN, BUT DIS HIGH-DIVIN ACT HAS GOT ME SCARED STIFF!



SO IT IS THAT THREE BLENK
PARACHUTES MUSHROOM IN
THE AIR HIGH ABOVE THE
WOODS HILLS...

WHILE THE JOKER'S GROSS
DRIVES HIM TO A TREACHEROUS
GAMBLE WITH RATS!

BUT THE MOTOR IS IN WORSE
SHAPE THAN THE ARCH-CROOK
REALIZES... PLANES BURST
FROM THE COWLING -- THE
CRAFT DIVES SHARPLY --
AND SECONDS LATER....

HA, HA! WHAT FOOLS THEY ARE!
IF I CAN KEEP THIS PLANE IN
THE AIR, I WON'T HAVE TO SPIT
WITH THEM! THEY'LL NEVER
FIND THE HIDDEN LOOT -- AND
THEY'LL NEVER SEE ME AGAIN!
HA, HA!



HOURS PASS--AND
IN A DENSE HAYING
NOT FAR FROM
THE SMOKING RUINS
OF THE PLANE, A
SPRAWLED FIGURE
STIRS...

WH-WHERE
AM I? ... I FEEL
STUNNED, DIZZY... MUST
HAVE BEEN WALKING
AND FELL DOWN
HERE...

WHO AM I?
FUNNY... CAN'T SEEM TO
REMEMBER A THING! OH, WELL--
PERHAPS IT WILL ALL COME BACK
AS THE SHOCK WEARS OFF...
OR... MY HEAD IS SPINNING...

A PLANE!
CRASHED AND DESTROYED!
COULD I HAVE BEEN IN IT?
... BUT NO-- (I'D CERTAINLY
HAVE BEEN KILLED IN THAT
CASE... HMMM-- HERE'S
A VALISE THAT WAS
THROWN CLEAR.

JEWELS
WORTH A FORTUNE!
WONDER IF THIS NEWS-
PAPER THAT WAS IN-
SIDE THE VALISE CAN
TELL ME ANYTHING...?

WHY,
THIS MUST BE THE
LOOT FROM THAT
ROBBERY! AND THE
JOKER--WHOEVER HE
IS-- MUST HAVE BEEN
BURNED TO DEATH
MAKING HIS GETAWAY!
JUST ONE MORE PROOF
THAT CRIME
DOESN'T
PAY!

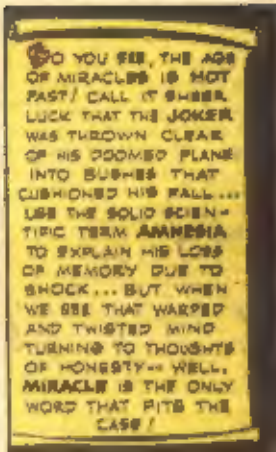
THE NEWS-
PAPER
JOKER PLIES
WITH STOLEN
JEWELS AFTER
BATTLE WITH
BATMAN



THESE GEMS
WOULD MAKE ME RICH--
BUT IT WOULDN'T BE RIGHT TO
KEEP THEM ---- I'LL TURN
THEM OVER TO THE
AUTHORITIES ...



EVENTUALLY,
THIS ROAD WILL LEAD ME
TO SOME TOWN, WHERE I CAN
GIVE THIS STUFF TO THE POLICE
... AND MAYBE, ON THE WAY,
MY MEMORY WILL COME BACK!



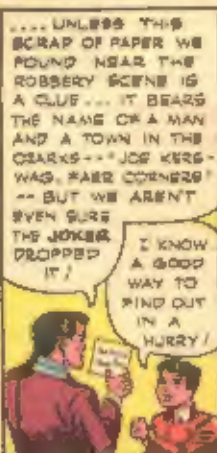
DO YOU SEE, THE AGE
OF MIRACLES IS HOT
FAST! CALL IT SHEER
LUCK THAT THE JOKER
WAS THROWN CLEAR
OF HIS DOOMED PLANE
INTO BUSHES THAT
CUSHIONED HIS FALL ...
USE THE SOLID SCIENTIFIC
TERM AMNESIA
TO EXPLAIN HIS LOSS
OF MEMORY DUE TO
SHOCK ... BUT WHEN
WE SEE THAT WARPED
AND TWISTED MIND
TURNING TO THOUGHTS
OF HONESTY-- WELL,
MIRACLE IS THE ONLY
WORD THAT FITS THE
CASE!



IN GOTHAM CITY, MEANWHILE,
BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG
WARD, DICK GRAYSON, CON-
SIDER THEIR NEXT MOVE ...

DO YOU THINK THE JOKER HIT
FOR THE TALL TIMBERS?

YES, DICK--
THE JEWEL ROBBERY HAD ALL
THE earmarks OF A FINAL
JOB TO TOP OFF THAT SERIES
OF OTHER CRIMES! -- AND WE
HAVEN'T A SINGLE CLUE TO
FOLLOW UNLESS ...



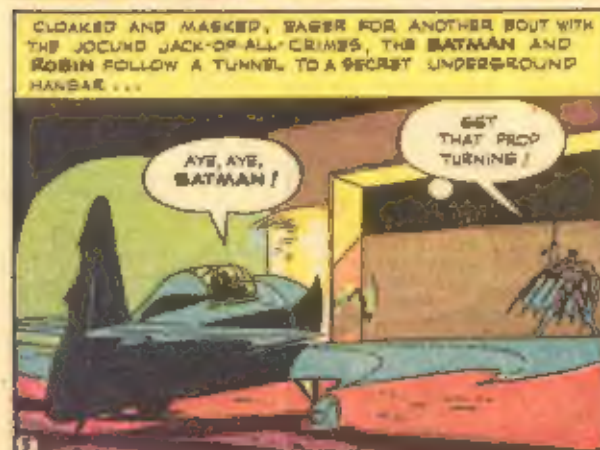
... UNLESS THIS
SCRAP OF PAPER WE
FOUND NEAR THE
ROBBERY SCENE IS
A CLUE ... IT BEARS
THE NAME OF A MAN
AND A TOWN IN THE
CORKS-- "JOE KERS-
WAG, FAER CORNERS"
-- BUT WE AREN'T
EVEN SURE
THE JOKER
DROPPED
IT!

I KNOW
A GOOD
WAY TO
FIND OUT
IN A
HURRY!



YOU'RE RIGHT, YOUNG FELLA -- WE
MIGHT BETTER BE TAKING A LOOK AT
FAER CORNERS THAN TWIDDLING OUR
THUMBS HERE!

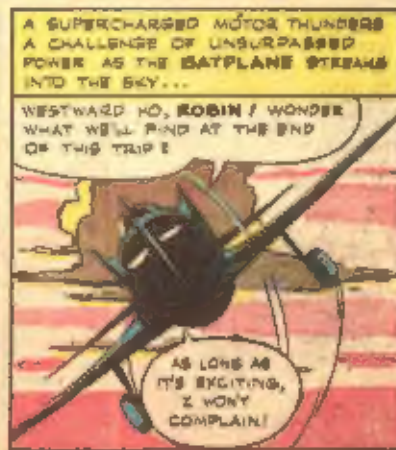
I CAN'T
RELAX ANYWAY,
THINKING OF THAT
LAUGHING HYENA
GETTING AWAY WITH
STOLEN MILLIONS!



CLOAKED AND MASKED, BAGER FOR ANOTHER BOUT WITH
THE JOVUND JACK-OF-ALL-CRIMES, THE BATMAN AND
ROBIN FOLLOW A TUNNEL TO A SECRET UNDERGROUND
HANGAR ...

AYE, AYE,
BATMAN!

GET
THAT PROP
TURNING!



A SUPERCHARGED MOTOR THUNDERS
A CHALLENGE OF UNSURPASSED
POWER AS THE BATPLANE STEAMS
INTO THE SKY ...

WESTWARD HO, ROBIN! WONDER
WHAT WE'LL FIND AT THE END
OF THIS TRIP!

AS LONG AS
IT'S EXCITING,
I WON'T
COMPLAIN!

WHILE THE DYNAMIC DUO OF CRIME-SMASHERS IS WIN-
ING SWIFTLY TOWARD ADVENTURE, THREE DOLEFUL
CROOKS PLOD SLOWLY TOWARD THE OUTSKIRTS OF
FAIR CORNERS...

WHAT A ROTTEN BREAK!
THE JOKER AND THE JEWEL
GONE--AND WE DON'T KNOW WHERE
THE REST OF THE SWAG
IS PLANTED!

YA WANNA
KNOW WHAT I THINK,
KITE? I THINK THE
JOKER PULLED A
FAST ONE AN' LIT OUT
WIT' DA BOODLE!

YOU'RE DREAMING, MITRO!
WE DIDN'T SEE HIM JUMP,
SO HE MUST HAVE BURNED
UP WITH THE CRATE! IT'S
UP TO US TO GET BACK
TO THE BIG TOWN AND
MAKE ANOTHER
STAKE!

I'M GON' BACK TA DA
BIG TOWN, AWBUSHY,
SPARKY--BUT WHEN
I GET PERS, I'M
GONNA START LOOKIN'
FER DAT DOUBLE-
CROSSER WIT' A
PINEAPPLE IN ME
POCKET!

THE DEJECTED TRIO HAS SPENT
MUCH TIME WANDERING IN THE
MOUNTAINS...AND THE SLEEPY
VILLAGE HAS TAKEN ON A FEST-
IVE AIR SINCE LAST WE VISITED
IT...

BIGGEST
CELEBRATION SINCE
MA HUPPER'S
FUNERAL,
HANK!

WELCOME
OUR
HERO

I'LL SAY THIS
FER FAIR CORNERS--
NOBODY LIKES T' WORK
BUT WHEN THERE'S A
PARTY BREWIN', EVERYBODY
WAKES UP AN GETS BUSY!

WONDER
WHAT THE HICKS
ARE CELEBRATING
?

AS MAYOR O'
THIS HERE TOWN,
I HAVE ORDERED
THIS HERE BLOW-
OUT TOO HONOR TO
A STRANGER WHO
HAS PUT FAIR COR-
NERS ON TH' MAP
AT LAST!

OUR HERO

TOMORRA EVERY NEWS-
PAPER IN AMERICA WILL
TELL HOW ED SMITH BRINGS
TO OUR ENTERPRISIN' CON-
STABLE PRECIOUS JEWELS
STOLE BY CROOKS FROM TH'
WICKED CITIES O' TH' EAST,
WHICH BANE WE FOUND
OUT IN THE MOUNTAINS...

AIN'T IT WONDERFUL
I THINK TH' NAME O'
FAIR CORNERS WILL
SNACK EVERY AMER-
ICAN WHO CAN READ,
RIGHT IN TH' EYE,
FOLKS?

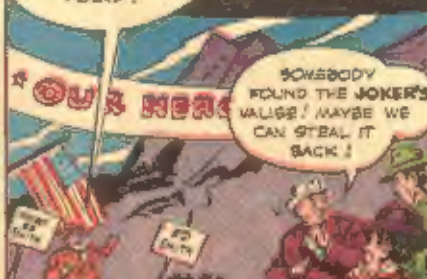
BUT THE JOKER'S FIRSTWILE
COMRADES IN CRIME HAVE A
SHOCK IN STORE FOR THEM...

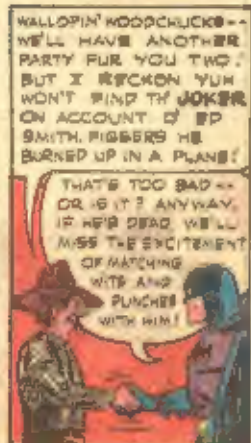
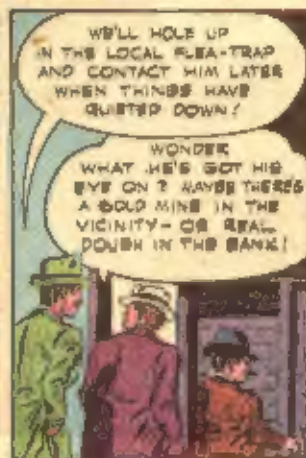
AN' NOW I AM RIGHT
DUMFOUNDED WITH
JOY T' PRESENT TH'
HONESTEST MAN IN

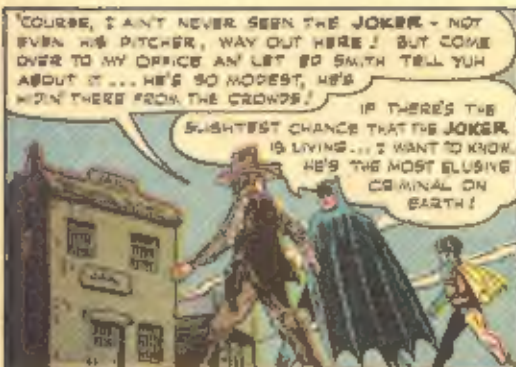
THESE PARTS--GUEST O'
HONOR--ED SMITH HIS-
SELF, IN TH' FLESH!

SOME
CLOCKHOPPER WHO DIDN'T
EVEN KNOW DA STUFF
WAS WORTH
DOUGH, I BETCHA

SOMEBODY
FOUND THE JOKER'S
WALLET! MAYBE WE
CAN STEAL IT
BACK!







TO THE SUSPICIOUS EYES OF THREE WATCHERS ON THE VERANDA OF THE LOCAL HOSTELRY THE APPROACHING GROUP CAN HAVE ONLY ONE MEANING...

HEY!
DO YOU GUYS
SEE WHAT
I SEE?

THE
BATMAN
AND ROBIN
--AND THEY'VE
CAPTURED
THE
JOKER!

WE'D
BETTER GET
OUT OF
HERE!

WHADDYA MEAN, GET OUT?
HOW CAN WE GET OUR CASH
WITHOUT THE JOKER?

NITRO'S RIGHT SPARKY...
WE'VE GOT TO RESCUE
HIM

I DON'T LIKE IT--
BUT IN GAME

WE "XT VSTAN"

DON'T WORRY,
BOSS -- WE'LL
SAVE YA.

WHAT'S THE
MEANING OF
THIS? WHO ARE
YOU MEN?

AS IF YOU
DON'T KNOW
YOU FOUR-FLUSHER
THREE GOT-IT-AIN
CTV CROOKS

BUT WITH DEATH A HAIRSBREADTH AWAY,
THE BATMAN AND ROBIN DISCOVER THAT
THEY HAVE AN UNSUSPECTED ALLY

I'LL TEACH YOU
TO GO AROUND
POINTING GUNS
AT HONEST MEN

YOU SAVED MY LIFE
I I CAN'T BELIEVE IT

NEITHER CAN
NITRO, JUDGE
BUT HE LOOK
ON HIS
PAN

YOU'RE ONE KITE
THAT'S THROUGH WITH
HIGH-FLYING FOR A
WHILE

WHY SHOULD
THE BATMAN BE
SURPRISED BECAUSE
I KEPT HIM FROM
BEING KILLED.
ROBIN?

MAYBE I'LL
TELL YOU
LATER

BUT RIGHT NOW I'M
TRYING TO STRIKE SPARKS
FROM SPARKY'S EYEBROWS.

LET'S TAKE
T O N DA AM
JA JOKER'S
DOUBLE CROSSIN'
UP

NO USE CHASING THEM
IN THE DARK. I'VE
GOT A HUNCH THEY'LL
BE COMING BACK

WHAT WAS THAT
LITTLE CHAP
SAYING ABOUT
THE JOKER?

YOU WOULDN'T
UNDERSTAND
GUM AND
DON'T ASK ME
WHY

GOOD NIGHT
PEACE TO ALL FIGHTERS.
IF A HERO'S CONSCIENCE MAKES
A MAN SLEEP, THEN I OUGHT
TO GET A
GOOD REST

HUH?
THAT'S A LITTLE
GOOD NIGHT

BUT THERE'S NO REST FOR BATMAN
AND ROBIN FACED WITH AS BAPTISM
A PROBLEM AS THEY HAVE EVER EN-
COUNTERED

COULD
BE... BUT
HE DID
SAVE MY
LIFE WHEN EVERY
TIME WE'VE MET BE-
FORE HE'S TRIED HIS
BEST TO KILL ME

I TELL YOU
IT'S ANOTHER
OF HIS
DEVILISH
TRICKS

LIFE WHEN EVERY
TIME WE'VE MET BE-
FORE HE'S TRIED HIS
BEST TO KILL ME

YOU CAN'T SELL ME THE JOKER
AS A REFORMED CHARACTER
DON'T FORGET - THOSE JEWELS
HE GUZZLED ARE ONLY A
SMALL PART OF THE SPAN HE
AND HIS PALS COLLECTED

WE - HE MUST
HAVE THE REST
- THEN SOME-
WHERE - AND
AS SOON AS WE
GET A LINE ON IT
WE'LL PICK
UP THE REST

AND THE MATTER
OF THE HIDDEN LOOT
IS OCCUPYING THE
JOKER'S BRAIN AT
THE PRESENT MO-
MENT FOR THE
MEMORIES BANISHED
FROM HIS CONSCIENCE
BY THE PLANE
CRASH - STILL LIE
DEEP IN THE RECESSES
OF HIS SUBCON-
SCIOUS MIND WHERE
DREAMS ARE
FASHIONED.

AND A DREAM OF
STARTLING CLARITY
DISTURBS HIS
SLEEP

GOLD - JEWELS -
CASH. MILLIONS IN
STOLEN LOOT - PACKED
AWAY IN BOXES AND
TRUNKS...

WHA? I'VE BEEN
DREAMING AND YET IT
WAS SO VIVID - SO
REAL - CAN IT BE TRUE?
IT MUST BE TRUE!

I'LL DO IT!
I'LL TAKE A LOOK AND
MAKE SURE WHETHER THE
DREAM WAS TRUE WOULDN'T
IT BE WONDERFUL IF I
COULD RETURN ALL THAT
STOLEN PROPERTY TO ITS
RIGHTFUL OWNERS?

A GLANT
REGLANCE SLIPS
OUT OF A
NOOK OF
THE HOTEL
AND SLINKS
INTO THE
SHADOWS

I FEEL
LIKE A CROOK
USING THE WINDOW
AS A EXIT BUT
THERE'S NO NEED
TO DISTURB
ANYONE

90 DAYS -
HE'S GONNA ROB DA
EXPRESS OFFICE W'OUT
LETT'N US N ON -

THE CHANCES
ARE T'S SOMETH'NG
BIGGER THAN THA' BUT
WHATEVER - IS WE'LL COUNT
OURSELVES N

WOULDN'T IT BE
FUNNY IF SOMEBODY
CAUGHT ME HERE? WHY,
THEY'D PROBABLY THINK
I WAS A THIEF!
HA, HA, HA, HA!

IF ANY SAID THE WORD FOR IT, JOKER -- OR
RATHER 'ED SAID IT' -- NOT IN THIS CASE

AT LAST
WE'VE GOT YOU
WHERE WE
WANT YOU

WHAT YOU
HOODLUMS
AGAIN?

YA
DONE US
DIRT FOR THE
LAST TIME

ALL RIGHT--START TALKING!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WHERE'S THE
STUFF FROM
THOSE
ROBBERIES
WE
PULLED?

STUFF FROM
ROBBERIES
YOU PULLED?
IF YOU DON'T
KNOW, HOW
SHOULD I?

LET'S
GET OUTA DA TOWN
WE GOT WAYS O MA'N
N M TALE

THIS WILL KEEP
HIM QUIET --
WE GET HIM TO
A PLACE WHERE
NOISE WON'T
MATTER

AND AT THAT VERY MOMENT,
THE BATMAN'S MIND SOLVES
A PROBLEM THAT HAS PUZZLED
HIM ALL DAY

THAT SCRAP OF PAPER WE FOUND
IN GOTHAM CITY -- OF KEENING
OF COURSE -- WE GOT IT!
COME ON ROBIN -- TO THE
EXPRESS OFFICE!

SHAP

HUM?

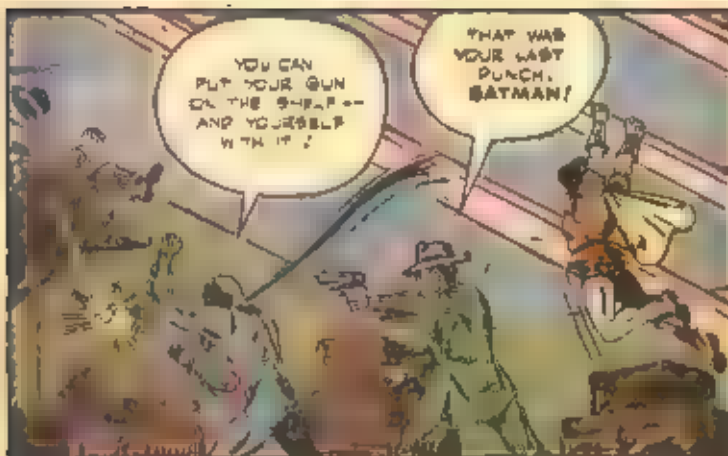
SECONDS LATER THE BATMAN'S DUO LEAPS LIKE TWIN
PROJECTILES THROUGH AN OPEN WINDOW

WELL WELL -- LOOKS AS
IF WE'RE GONNA HAVE THE
RARE EXPERIENCE OF
RESCUING THE JOKER
FROM CRIMINALS!

THEY'VE
GOT THE
JOKER!

THE
BATMAN!

AND
ROBIN!



YOU CAN
PUT YOUR GUN
ON THE SHELF--
AND YOURSELF
WITH IT!

THAT WAS
YOUR LAST
PUNCH,
BATMAN!



AND IF I
RIDE WITH
YOU?

THE CHANCE
OF A LIFETIME
SPOILED BY
A BRAT.

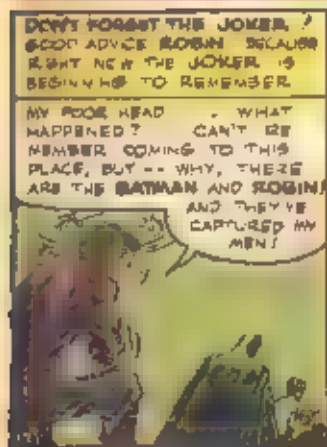
THANKS,
ROBIN!



WRAP THEM
UP TIGHT, ROBIN!
WE'LL EXPRESS THEM
STRAIGHT TO THE
WARDEN.

DON'T FORGET
THE JOKER! HE MAY
BE A HERO N FARR
CORNERS -- BUT N
GOTHAM CITY HE'S
STILL A WANTED
MAN!

OKAY--
THAT'S
ENOUGH
OF THIS!



DON'T FORGET THE JOKER!
GOOD ADVICE ROBIN BECAUSE
RIGHT NOW THE JOKER IS
BEGINNING TO REMEMBER.

MY POOR HEAD -- WHAT
HAPPENED? CAN'T RE-
MEMBER COMING TO THIS
PLACE, BUT -- WHY, THERE
ARE THE BATMAN AND ROBIN!
AND THEY'VE
CAPTURED MY
MEN!



BUT THEY WON'T
CAPTURE ME THIS
IS JUST ONE MORE
TIME WHEN THE
JOKER IS TOO
SMART FOR
THEM!

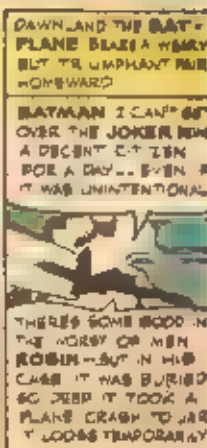
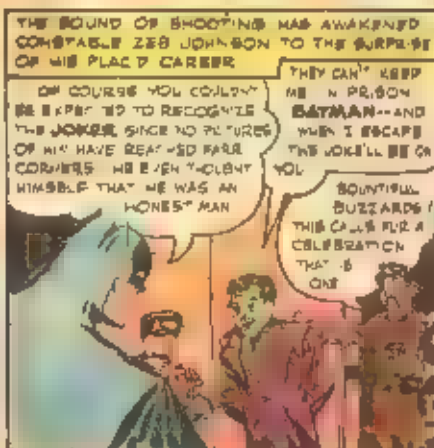
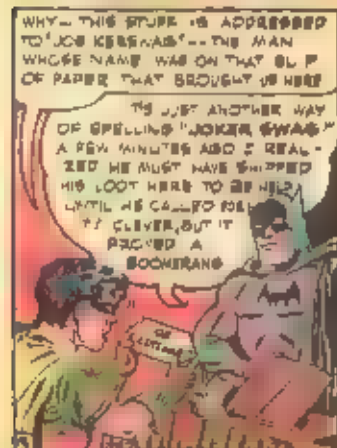
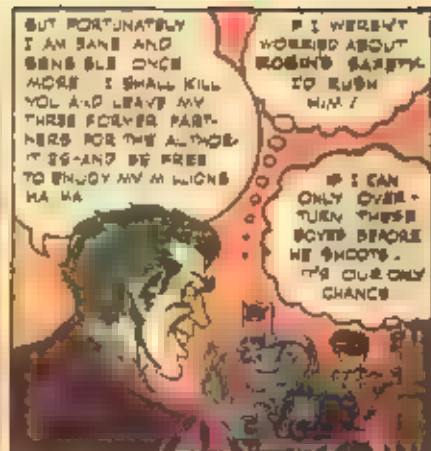


WELL GENTLEMEN--
THIS IS A COMPLETE
SURPRISE TO ME
BUT A HAPPY ONE
HA HA HA

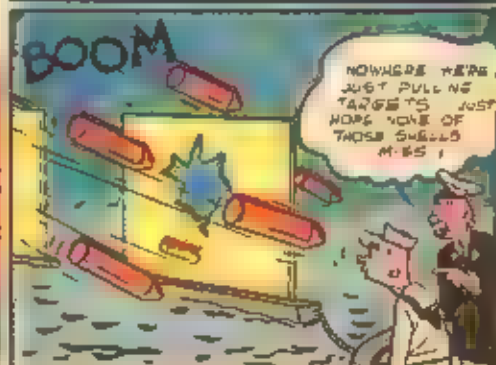


THE JOKER!
HE'S CONSCIOUS!

WORSE THAN
THAT -- HE'S
HIMSELF
AGAIN!



SHORTY



THE WINNING TEAM!!

**BATMAN AND ROBIN
ARE AMERICA'S
No.1 ACTION TEAM!
FOLLOW THEIR EXPLOITS
IN EVERY ISSUE OF
DETECTIVE COMICS!**

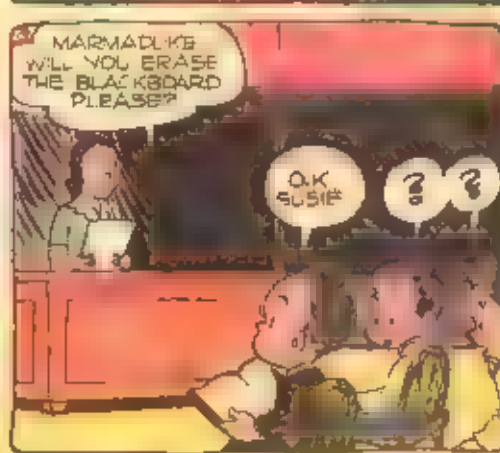
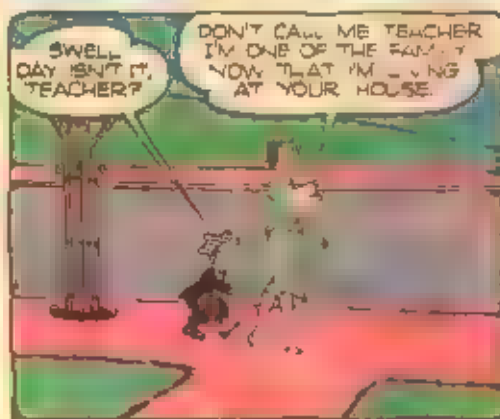
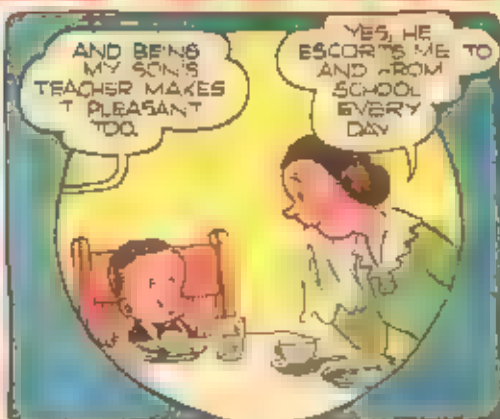
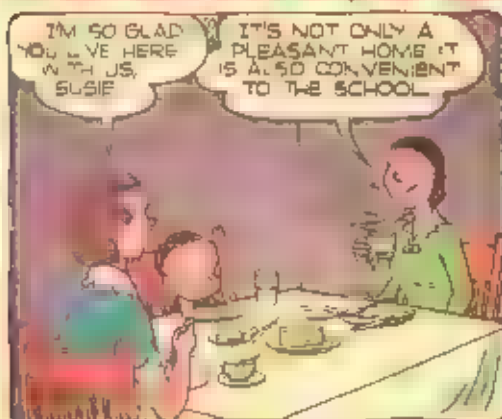


**ALSO IN EACH ISSUE
OF DETECTIVE COMICS:
BOY COMMANDOS!
--MOST SENSATIONAL
NEW STRIP OF THE YEAR!**



**A NEW ISSUE
ON SALE
EVERY MONTH!**

MARMADUKE • JONES



SILLY WILLY



BOMBSHELL!

THE SENSATIONAL YOUNG
HEROES OF THE YEAR'S
MOST SENSATIONAL NEW
COMIC STRIP NOW HAVE A
MAGAZINE OF THEIR OWN!

THE FIRST ISSUE OF THIS
FAST-ACTION
MAGAZINE SOLD OUT!
READERS ARE STILL
RAVING ABOUT IT... SO
DON'T MISS THIS

2ND BIG ISSUE

ON SALE FEB. 5TH



BATMAN



ROBIN

ROBBERY AND VIOLENCE RUN RAMPANT AS A NEW BARREL CRIME WAVE SWEEPS OVER GOTHAM CITY. AN EVIL BREW CONCOCTED IN THE FERTILE BRAIN OF AN INGENIOUS CRIMINAL UNSUSPECTED UNKNOWN... HE WALKS AMONG HIS VICTIMS WHILE HIS HIRELINGS OBEY HIS COMMANDS AND ESCAPE BEFORE THE VERY EYES OF THE PUZZLED POLICE. EVEN THE AGILE WITS OF BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER ARE PUT TO A SEVERE TEST WHEN THEY TRY TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY OF ---

"THE GRADE A CRIMES!"



THE DARK HOUR BEFORE DAWN -- GOTHAM CITY SLEEPS. ALL BUT THE FAITHFUL SERVANTS OF RICH AND POWER AWAKE TO FIND MEN!



SUDDENLY A BANG NO
SHOT CRASHES
THROUGH THE SILENCE
A SHADOWY
FIGURE SPEEDS QUICKLY
INTO THE DARK-
NESS

...TO BE SWALLOWED UP BY THE NIGHT-- LEAV-
ING ONLY THE MILKMAN AND HIS HORSE
PLODDING ON THE R. WEARY ROUND

RREEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE

NEXT MORNING

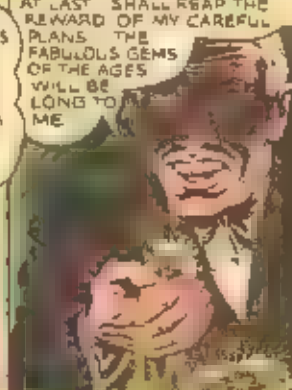
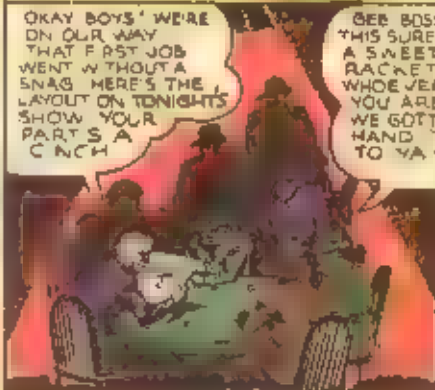
MEANWHILE, IN A DISTANT HIDEOUT, AN ARCH-
CRIMINAL MAPS A MASTER PLAN FOR PLUNDER

OKAY BOYS! WE'RE
ON OUR WAY
THAT FAST JOB
WENT WITHOUT A
SNAG. HERE'S THE
LAYOUT ON TONIGHT'S
SHOW YOUR
PARTS A
CATCH

GER BOSS
THIS SURE \$
A SWEET
RACKET
WHOEVER
YOU ARE
WE GOTTA
HAND IT
TO YA!

HA, WHAT A SENSATION IF MY
IDENTITY WERE KNOWN
AT LAST I SHALL REAP THE
REWARD OF MY CAREFUL
PLANS. THE
FABULOUS GEMS
OF THE AGES
WILL BE
LONG TO
ME

DAILY BUGLE
DARING EARLY BIRD
ROBBERY
VIN DORN
JEWELS
STOLEN
SERVANT
SHOT IN
BACK



THIS STARTS THE BARRLING 'EARLY BIRD' CRIME
WAVE. VIN DORN ADDS TO THE MYSTERY CRIM-
INAL STONE. MEAN, THEY FLEET BACK INTO THE NIGHT!

WHAT
DOES
ON HERE?

OH HHHHH

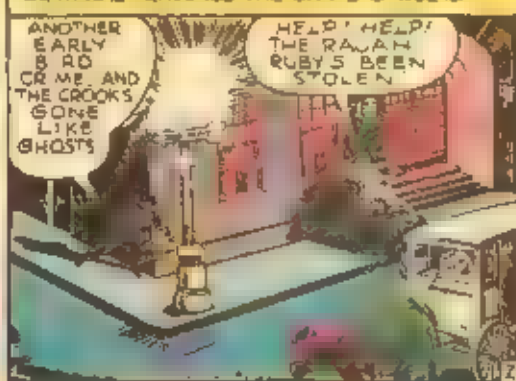
BULL'S EYE. HE DIDN'T
HAVE A CHANCE TO SPOT
US!

C MON! WE
GOT THE
EMERALD
COLLECTION

AND ALWAYS
THEY WORK IN THOSE PERIL HOURLS BEFORE DAWN
... WHEN ONLY THE MILKMAN AND THE WARY
CRIMINAL TRAVERSE THE CITY'S STREETS

ANOTHER
EARLY
BIRD
CRIME. AND
THE CROOKS
GONE
LIKE
GHOSTS

HELP! HELP!
THE RAWAN
RUBYS BEEN
STOLEN



WHILE SOMEWHERE NEAR
THE CRIME SMELT CITY
THE MASTER CRIMINAL
GLOATS

AH! ANOTHER
FLAWLESS
BEAUTY!
I'LL NEVER
SELL THIS
ONE!

AND, AS ONE NIGHT HE LEAVES THE LAVISH MORGON
MANSION WITH HIS YOUNG WARD DICK GRAYSON

WAY PAST
YOUR BEDTIME
YOUNGSTER
DON'T THINK THE
RECEPTION WOULD
LAST SO LATE!

BOY DID YOU SEE
THOSE WEDDING GISTS
BET THEY TEND TO BE
EARLY BIRD CROOKS.

THE MYSTERIOUS CRIME WAVE CONT HUES
CLUES? NONE BUT THERE IS A PATTERN
FOR THOSE WHO CAN SEE IT AND
THERE'S ONE WHO CAN BATMAN THAT
NAMES S OF CRIME WHO CLOAKS HIS
IDENTITY BEHIND THE GUISE OF PLAYBOY
BRUCE WAYNE!

AN ODD TRICK OF LIGHT THROWS THE
SHADOW OF BATMAN ON A WALL
A VISION IS OMEN TO GANGDOM

THAT'S A MIGHTY STRANGE
BUSINESS... NO CLUES
NO CROOKS AND NO
JEWELS

WHAT
PUZZLES ME IS
HOW THOSE THUGS
GET IN SO EASILY!
ALMOST LIKE
GHOSTS!

SUDDENLY, A SHOT, A PIERCING CRY, AND
THE SHARP STACCATO OF RUNNING FEET

YES BUT GHOSTS
DON'T SHOOT

AND
THAT MEANS
WORK
FOR US!

INSTANTLY, A STARTLING CHANGE COMES OVER THE
PAIR, A FEW QUICK MOVEMENTS,
AND THEY RACE DOWN THE
STREET AS BATMAN AND
ROBIN!

ANOTHER EARLY BIRD
CRIME THAT SHOT CAME
FROM THE MORGON
MANSION

LOOK!
SOMEONE'S
GETTING
AWAY!

YEOW!
BATMAN!

NOT
SO FAST,
PAL!

BUT AS BATMAN STRUGGLES WITH THE CLOAKED CRIMINAL, ANOTHER FIGURE LEAPS SUDDENLY FROM THE SHADOWS.



AND THE SCALES ARE TIPPED A-CANST THE GALLANT DUO-- WITH YOUNG ROBIN'S LIFE IN THE BALANCE!

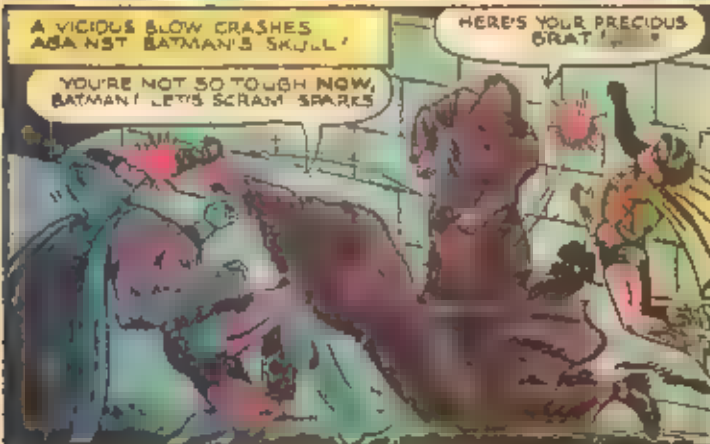


STEP BACK, WISE GUY--- OR TH'S K'D'LL LOOK L'KE A WOODPECKER'S MASTERP'EC!

OKAY! YOU WIN! BUT TH'S IS ONLY ROUND ONE!

A VICIOUS BLOW CRASHES AGAINST BATMAN'S SKULL!

YOU'RE NOT SO TOUGH NOW, BATMAN! LET'S SCRAM, SPARKS!



HERE'S YOUR PRECIOUS GRAT!

BRIEF MOMENTS LATER...

IT'S ALL MY FAULT, I SHOULDN'T HAVE LET HIM SNEAK UP ON ME.

WHEN I NEVER THOUGHT I'D GET A SWELLED HEAD CHIN UP, KID SHOULD HAVE GUESSED THERE'D BE TWO LET'S GO AFTER 'EM. THEY DIDN'T HAVE MUCH OF A HEAD-START.



DOWN THE STREET CLATTERS A MILKWAGON TOWED BY A WEARY OLD HORSE.

THEY WENT THIS WAY MAYBE THAT MILKMAN SAW THEM!



YES, A ROBBERY AND SHOOTING! YOU'RE CERTAIN YOU DIDN'T SEE ANYONE?

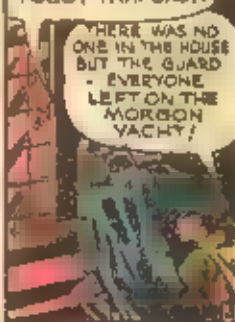
NOPE, NOT EVEN A CAT, ME AND OLD DA SY HERE SURE WOULD HAVE SPOTTED 'EM!



A BEWILDERED DUO TURNS BACK TOWARD THE 5 LEFT MORRONG MANS ON---

WELL, AT LEAST WE CAN FIND OUT ABOUT THAT SHOT!

THERE WAS NO ONE IN THE HOUSE BUT THE GUARD - EVERYONE LEFT ON THE MORRONG YACHY!



MOVING ABLY THROUGH THE DARK HALLS THE CRIME FIGHTERS REACH A HALF OPENED DOOR AND FIND...

BATMAN LOOK THAT'S THE ROOM WHERE THE GFTS WERE DISPLAYED

SOMEONE'S LYING ON THE FLOOR!

IT'S THE GUARD!

POOR CHAP HE DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE SHOT IN THE BACK BY THOSE YELLOW MURDERERS



MMMM THEY TOOK ONLY THE JEWELS AGAIN... LEFT ALL THIS VALUABLE SILVER! KEY! WHAT'S THIS?

A WHITE BUTTON! TORN FROM A WHITE COAT! AND THOSE CROOKS WERE WEAR NO BLACK MANTLES! VERY ODD!

TWO WEARY ADVENTURERS FINALLY REACH HOME... AND BED!

I'VE GOT TO FIGURE THIS OUT! ALWAYS THE SAME PATTERN... MYSTERIOUS ENTRY AT 3 OR 4 A.M., ONLY VALUABLE GEMS STOLEN. THE GUARD ALWAYS TAKEN BY SURPRISE, AND SHOT IN THE BACK. AND A PARTY ALWAYS PRECEDING THE LOOTING. WHIPS IT ALL MEAN?

HO! HUH! DON'T FORGET THAT WHITE BUTTON!

NEXT MORNING BRUCE AND DICK ARE STILL TRYING TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY

I KNOW THE ANSWER'S RIGHT HERE IF I CAN JUST FIT THE PECES TOGETHER. THIS WHITE BUTTON THE WHOLE CRIME PATTERN

MMMM! THE MILK TASTES GOOD!

MILK! THAT'S IT! WOW! WHAT A SET-UP! SO SIMPLE... SO COMPLETELY SAFE! WHAT A FOOL I AM! LET THEM SLIP RIGHT OUT OF MY HANDS!

OOPS! LET ME IN ON THIS!

...ALL THIS ADDS UP AT LAST! 4 A.M. IN THE MORNING - A WHITE BUTTON - MYSTERIOUS GETAWAY - THE MILKMAN.

JEEPERS! YOU MEAN THAT MILK DRIVER WAS ONE OF THE CROOKS?

RIGHT THE OTHER THING WAS PROBABLY HIDING IN THE BACK OF THE MILK WAGON. NOW TO FIGURE OUT HOW THEY GOT IN SO EASILY. DICK, WE'RE GOING TO A PARTY TONIGHT!



OKAY - BUT THIS NIGHT LIFE'S WEARING ME DOWN

IN BRUCE WAYNE'S LABORATORY

IT'S ALL CLEAR NOW THOSE C.R. MES ALWAYS OCCUR AFTER A PARTY THAT MEANS SOMEONE AT EACH PARTY IS THE INSIDE MAN GETS THE LAYOUT MAYBE STEALS THE KEYS



YOU MEAN THE CROOKS WILL PROBABLY STRIKE AFTER THE SHINDIG TONIGHT?

SURE! THE DORLA DIAMOND'S THE BEST BAIT YET. HERE ROB N - PREPARE THIS FORMULA WHILE I DO SOME CHECKING UP ON THOSE OTHER PARTIES!



RIGHT

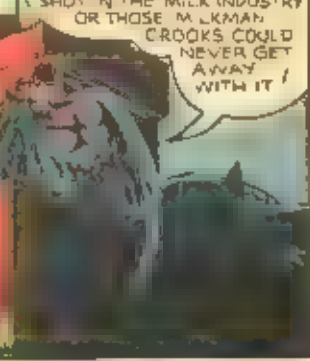
AS THE MID-NIGHT HOUR CHIMES AN AWESOME SHAPED WINGS S LENTLY ACROSS THE SKY THE BATPLANE



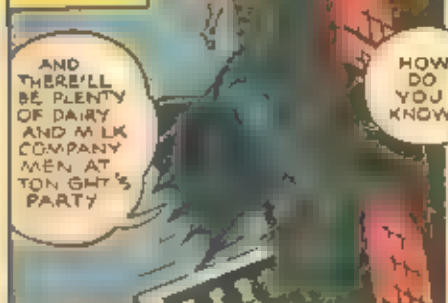
AND LIKE A GREAT S LENT BIRD IT COMES TO REST ON THE ROOF OF A PAL AT AL MANSION!



OUR FISHING SHOULD BE DOUBLY GOOD TONIGHT WHOEVER'S BEHIND THESE C.R. MES MUST BE A BUS SHOT IN THE MILK INDUSTRY OR THOSE MILKMAN CROOKS COULD NEVER GET AWAY WITH IT!



A PRECARIOUS CLIMB DOWN A VINE TRELLISED WALL..



AND THERE'LL BE PLENTY OF DAIRY AND MILK COMPANY MEN AT TONIGHT'S PARTY

HOW DO YOU KNOW?

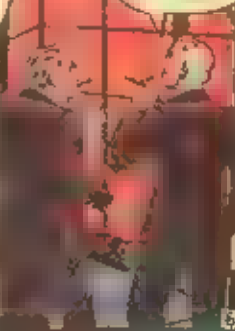
AND TWO MORE DIS- TINGUISHED GUESTS JOIN THE PARTY. UNSEEN!



S S SH! HERE COME SOME PEOPLE LOOK IT'S WINTHROP HIMSELF WITH ANOTHER GUEST

WELL, WINTHROP WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE DORLA DIAMOND? AS A JEWEL COLLECTOR YOU SHOULD KNOW IT'S WORTH

A RARE GEM BILL! ALMOST PRICELESS! I'M KEEPING IT MIGHTY WELL GUARDED





BETTER THAN YOU THINK, WINTHROP!
YOU SEE, ROBIN, WINTHROP IS TREASURER OF THE PURITY MILK CO. - BIGGEST IN TOWN!

I GET IT!
THAT MEANS
PLENTY OF HIS
BUSINESS FRIENDS
WILL BE HERE
INCLUDING THE
"NICE MAN" WHO'S
THE CHIEF CROOK



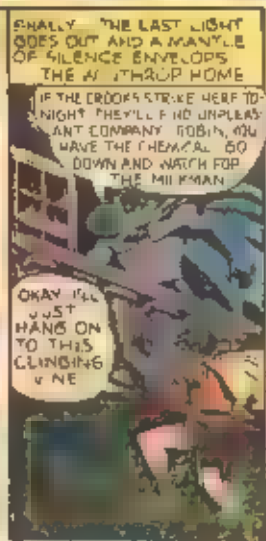
EXACTLY! ONLY TROUBLE IS
WINTHROP AND AT LEAST THREE
OTHERS. THERE WERE PRES-
ENT AT THE OTHER PARTIES,
CHECKED UP THIS AFTERNOON.

GOSH
WE'RE
STYMIED
THEN



'M NOT SO SURE
SOMEONE'S STILL
HERE OFFERING
THE GUARDS,
A NIGHT-CAP

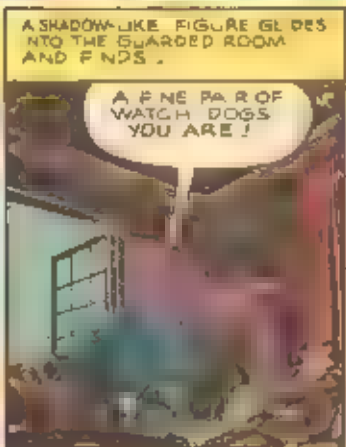
THEY'RE
LEAVING-
AND
WE'VE
FOUND
OUT
NOTHING!



EXACTLY - THE LAST LIGHT
GOES OUT AND A MANTLE
OF SILENCE ENVELOPS
THE WINTHROP HOME

IF THE CROOKS STRIKE HERE TO-
NIGHT THEY'LL FIND UNPLEAS-
ANT COMPANY, ROBIN, YOU
HAVE THE CHEMICAL 50
DOWN AND WATCH FOR
THE MILKMAN

OKAY, I'LL
JUST
HANG ON
TO THIS
CLIMBING
VINE



A SHADOW-LIKE FIGURE GLIDES
INTO THE GUARDED ROOM
AND FINDS...

A FINE PAIR OF
WATCH DOGS
YOU ARE!



HA, I THOUGHT SO... IT
WASN'T THE HOUR THAT PUT YOU
TO SLEEP, SO YOU GAVE YOUR-
SELF AWAY, MR. CHIEF CROOK!
OH-O! TIME FOR THE MILKMAN,
AND TIME FOR ME
TO RETIRE

CLIPPITY
CLOPP



AND BATMAN WAITS, NERVES
TENSED, EYES FOCUSED

LIKE AN EVIL GNOME OF
NIGHT THE CLOAKED
MARAUDER STEALS UP
ON THE HELPLESS GUARDS

CAN'T LET THEM SHOOT
THE GUARDS HAVE
TO CHANGE MY
PLANS SOMEWHAT

AN ABLE CAT-LIKE LEAP - AND
A LEAN FOLLY SPRINGS
FROM THE SHADOWS

JUST SO'S
YOU W-THAT
LOOK
DRUGGED
L- PUMP
SOME LEAD
INTO YA

EOW
I'M SEE NG
THINGS!

I HOPE
I'M
INTRUD-
ING!

YES!
YOU'RE SEEING
STARS!

THE ST- WARD IS A GLAR-
NG BEAM OF LIGHT STABS
OUT FROM NOWHERE -
BLIND NG BATMAN

AND
YOU'VE
SEEN TOO
MUCH FOR
YOUR OWN
HEALTH

WHAT!

A BULLET WHINES
THROUGH THE AIR

GOT!
HIM!

CRACK

CRUMPLED FIGURE LIES UPON THE FLOOR CAN T BE-
HAS THE CHAMPION OF JUSTICE FOUGHT HIS LAST BATTLE
AGAINST EVIL

IT'S BATMAN AGAIN
DON'T LET HIM GET
AWAY THIS TIME

HE DON'T
LOOK LIKE
HE'LL EVER
GO ANYPLACE
AGAIN BUT
WE'LL MAKE
SURE

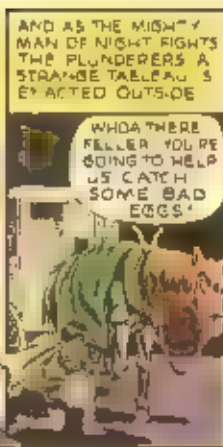
BUT BATMAN IS VERY MUCH ALIVE

HE'S GO NG
PLACES
RIGHT NOW!

HELP!
HE AIN'T
DEAD

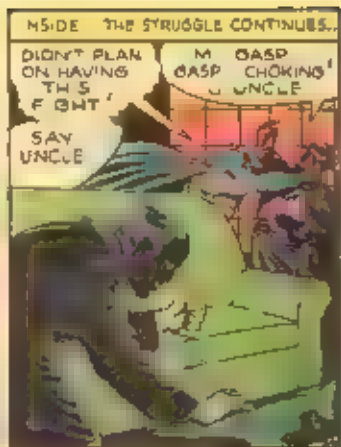


I'M NO GHOST
BROTHER! JUST AN OLD
ARMY TRICK—PRETEND
YOU'RE SHOT—THROW
ENEMY OFF GUARD



AND AS THE MIGHTY
MAN OF NIGHT FALLS
THE PLUNDERERS A
STRANGE TABLEAU
IS ACTED OUTSIDE

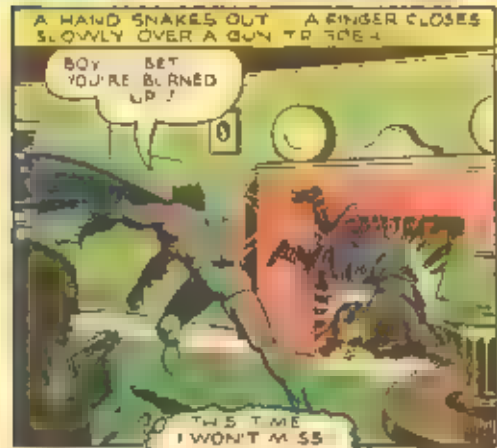
WHO! THERE
FELLER YOU'RE
GOING TO HELP
US CATCH
SOME BAD
EGGS!



DIDN'T PLAN
ON HAVING
THIS
FIGHT!

SAY
UNCLE

M OASP
OASP CHOKING!
UNCLE



A HAND SNAKES OUT—A FINGER CLOSES
SLOWLY OVER A GUN TO FREE

BOY BET
YOU'RE BURNED
UP!

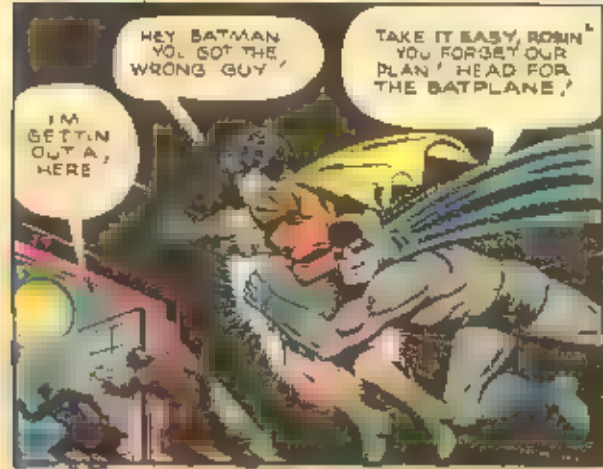
THIS TIME
I WON'T MISS



A MINUTE STREAK OF LIGHTNING
FLASHES ACROSS THE ROOM

SNUG
AS A
THUG IN A
RUG

NICE
TIMING
ROBIN



HEY BATMAN
YOU GOT THE
WRONG GUY

TAKE IT EASY, ROBIN
YOU FORGET OUR
PLAN! HEAD FOR
THE BATPLANE!

I'M
GETTING
OUTA
HERE



GET IT NOW ROBIN? THEN LL
HEAD STRAIGHT FOR THE OAK
STABLES—AND I'LL WAGER
THAT'S THE HIDEOUT WHERE
OUR CHIEF PRIZE IS!

SORRY
BATMAN
LOST MY
HEAD!

GET UP
THERE
DAISY!

A JARH SHIRT
AND A WEIRD
SHT AELTWA
A BLEP
W/INEL BLACK
PLATELY 3
CLSE ABLYE
A JUNTURY
ROAD

THESE LENSES WILL FILTER
OUT THE INFRA-RED PART I
USED ON DAISY'S HOOVES!
LOOK! THERE'S THE FARM

PRESENTLY TWO SHADES BLEND WITH THE
SHADOWS AS THEY STREAK THROUGH THE FAR-
GROUND.

THAT
HAYSTACK WILL
CONCEAL THE
BATPLANE --
LET'S TRY
THE BARN
FIRST

GOOD
NOW TO
GET DOWN TO
EARTH-
AND
BUSINESS!

A MODEL FARM - GLEAMING
AND SPOTLESS -- EQUIPPED
WITH FIFTY MODERN ELECTRIC
MILKING PUMPS.

STILL SEEKING THE LAST CLUE
TO THE ROBBERS, THE BURN
CRUSHERS SLIP SILENTLY
INTO THE MILKING BARN.

SWIFTLY THE DYNAMIC DODDIS-
APPEARS AS TWO WHITE
LOATED FIGURES ENTER THE BARN.

NOTHING OUT
OF ORDER HERE
HOLY COW! WHAT
A NEAT IDEA FOR
A PERFECT
HIDE OUT!

HERE'S
ONE OF
THOSE ELECTRIC
MILKING PUMPS
-- WORK BY
SUCTION

QUICK!
INTO THE
STALL
SOMEONE'S
COMING

TELL
YA BOSS
HE FOUGHT
LIKE TEN
MEN. WE
DIDN'T
STAND A
CHANCE

YOU FOOLS
THOUGHT YOU
COULD A.M.
STRAIGHT HE
LET YOU GO FOR
A PURPOSE PRO-
BABLY ON OUR TRAIL
RIGHT NOW. BUT
HE'LL NEVER
FIND THESE

A FABULOUS GLITTERING STREAM FLOWS
OUT OF THE MILKING PUMP INTO A
MILK CAN.

WOW! I WISH
ALL COWS GAVE MILK
LIKE THIS!

TIME
FOR US TO
CLEAR OUT
OF HERE
-- ALL PAY
YOU BUYS
OFF AND
WE'LL
SCRAM

THAT CACHE LOOKS
LIKE A REAL MILK-
ING PUMP. YOU'RE
SURE SMART BOSS
WHO'D LOOK FOR
JOOLES IN A
DAIRY?

AS THOUGH FROM NOWHERE, TWIN THUNDERBOLTS
FLASH ACROSS THE BARN.

WE
WOULD YOUVE
DONE ENOUGH
MILKING

GET
THE GANG
SPARKS
UGH!

YEOW!
BATMAN!
AGAIN

AND
DON'T
FORGET
ME!

WHERE'D THEY COME FROM

TAKE A
STALL FOR
YOURSELF.

A FURTIVE HAND STEALS
OUT - A LEVER FALLS!

AND A
SUDDEN BLAST
OF WATER
PLUNGES
DOWNWARD

THE
WASHING
SYSTEM

WHAT NEXT?
WATERFALLS
IN A
DARRY!

WAMPERED BY THE CLINGING FOLDS OF HIS CAPE, BATMAN
FIGHTS ON... BUT THE DYNAMIC DUO IS SOON OUTNUMBERED...

SLUG!
SLUG!

TSK TSK
CRYING
OVER SPILLED
MILK

A DOUBLE HEADER
LOOK OUT ROBIN

AND FINALLY OVERPOWERED

WELL WELL NOBLE FIGHTING
DESERVES A NOBLE END
TRIGGER TAKE
THEM TO THE PAS-
TEURIZING PLANT

YOU CAN
DROP THAT
MASK WIN-
THROP CAN
SEE RIGHT
THROUGH YOU

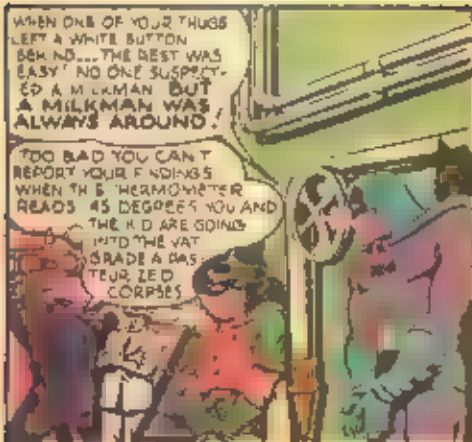
BUT BUT
IT CAN'T BE

WINTHROP WEALTHY
TREASURER OF THE
PURA MILK CO.,
HOST OF BARON KLIN-
GLE CAN HE BE THE
ARCH CROOK?

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE
YOU COULDN'T HAVE
KNOWN EVEN
MY MEN DON'T
KNOW WHO
I AM!

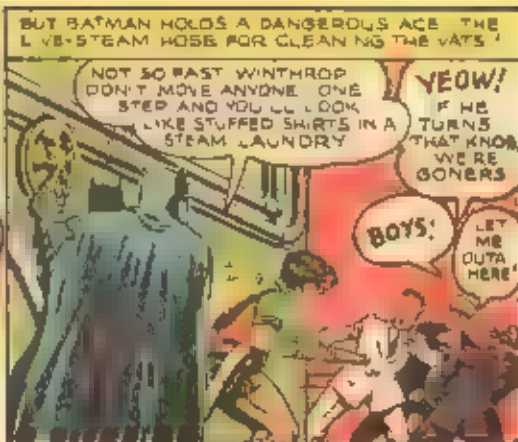
ADMIRE YOUR
CLEVER SLEUTHING
BATMAN WHAT
ELSE DID YOU
FIGURE
OUT?

IT WAS EASY. WINTHROP
THE JOBS WERE HELPED
FROM THE INSIDE YOU
WERE PRESENT AT EACH
PARTY YOU GOT THE
SKELETON KEY. YOU
DRUGGED THE GUARDS AND
YOU ARE THE JEWEL COL-
LECTOR ONLY AN EXPERT
WOULD HAVE SELECTED
THE JEWELS YOU TOOK



WHEN ONE OF YOUR THUGS LEFT A WHITE BUTTON BEHIND... THE BEST WAS EASY! NO ONE SUSPECTED A MILKMAN, BUT A MILKMAN WAS ALWAYS AROUND!

TOO BAD YOU CAN'T REPORT YOUR FINDINGS WHEN THE THERMOMETER READS 45 DEGREES YOU AND THE KID ARE GOING INTO THE VAT GRADE A GAS TIGHT CORPSES



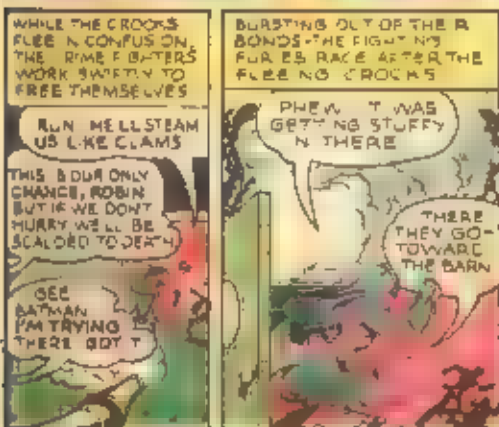
BUT BATMAN HOLDS A DANGEROUS ACE THE LIVE-STEAM HOSE FOR CLEANING THE VATS!

NOT SO FAST WINTHROP DON'T MOVE ANYONE ONE STEP AND YOU'LL LOOK LIKE STUFFED SHIRTS IN A STEAM LAUNDRY

YEOW! IF HE TURNS THAT KNOB WE'RE GONERS

BOYS!

LET ME OUTA HERE!



WHILE THE CROOKS FLEE IN CONFUSION ON THE RIME FIGHTERS WORK SWIFTLY TO FREE THEMSELVES

RUN MELLSTEAM US LIKE CLAMS

THIS IS OUR ONLY CHANCE, ROBIN BUT IF WE DON'T HURRY WE'LL BE SCALDED TO DEATH

SEE BATMAN I'M TRYING THERE GOY T

BURSTING OUT OF THE R B BONDS THE FIGHTING FURIES RACE AFTER THE FLEEING CROOKS

PHREW IT WAS GETTING STUFFY IN THERE

THERE THEY GO TOWARD THE BARN



ALL CLIMB TO THE TOP OF THE SLO AND KEEP MY EYES PEELED

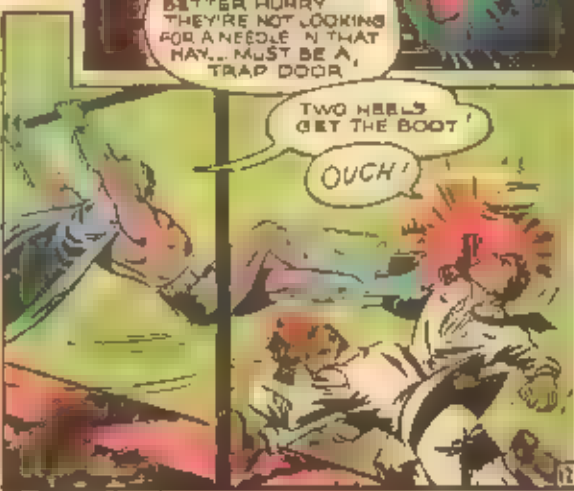
THE DOOR IS LOCKED TIGHT! OH! BETTER HURRY THEY'RE NOT LOOKING FOR A NEEDLE IN THAT HAY... MUST BE A TRAP DOOR



LIKE A GIANT WINGED BIRD OF NIGHT THE ACROBATMAN CRASHES THROUGH THE BARN WINDOW

WITH THE GREATEST OF EASE

WELL THERE ARE BATS IN HERE



TWO HEELS GET THE BOOT!

OUCH!

AS THE MIGHTY BATMAN FIGHTS WITH THE STRENGTH OF MANY...

HEAVE HO!
AWAY!
WE GO!

A YOUNG
DYNAMO MAKES
A SURPRISE
ENTRANCE!

WHEE THIS'S
BETTER THAN
THE CHUTE—
THE CHUTE!

AS DAYLIGHT GROWS STRONGER, THE UN-
EVEN FIGHT IS FINISHED!

LEAVE THOSE CHAPS ON ICE TILL THE POLICE
GET HERE. WINTHROP AND THE GEMS COME
ALONG WITH US AS A PRESENT FOR THE
COMMISSIONER!

(PUFF)
(PUFF)
THESE CROOKS
MUST CARRY
LEAD
WEIGHTS ON 'EM.

A GLORIOUS SUN BE
FILLS THE SKY—
AS THE VALANT
VICTORS WING
HOMEWARD!

LATER - IN POLICE COMMISSIONER
GORDON'S OFFICE...

IMAGINE A
MAN LIKE
WINTHROP
IN A CRIME
RACKET
WHO'D
SUSPECT
HIM—
OR THE
MILKMEN?

THAT'S WHY IT WAS SUCH
A NEAT SET-UP! WINTHROP
PROBABLY BOUGHT THE
SMALL DAIRY UNDER AN
ASSUMED NAME, AND IF
ANYONE FOUND OUT IT
WAS HIS—WHY, HE
COULD SAY IT WAS
A HOBBY!

JUST CHECKED OVER
WINTHROP'S BOOKS
FOR THE MILK COMPANY.
THERE'S A LARGE FUND
SHORTAGE HERE!

THAT EXPLAINS
A LOT! HE MUST
HAVE GAMED
WITH THE COMPANY'S
MONEY—AND HAD TO
MAKE GOOD! HE
SPENT EVERY CENT
HE HAD ON
COLLECTING
JEWELS!

BACK IN THE WAYNE MANSION...

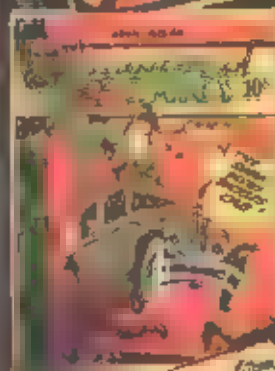
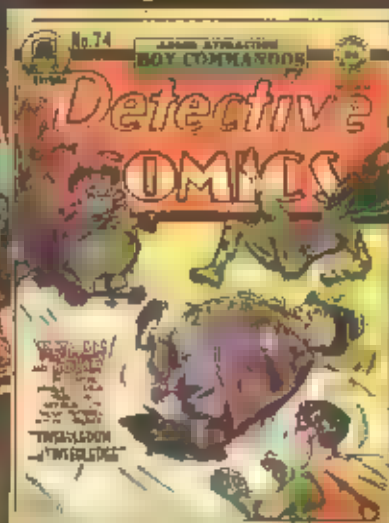
I SEE BY THE
PAPERS THAT
BATMAN AND
ROBIN CAUGHT
THOSE EARLY
BIRD
CROOKS!

IT'S SORT OF
IRONICAL
BRUCE GET
DRINKING THE
STUFF & WHAT
MADE BATMAN
AND ROBIN STRONG
ENOUGH TO FIGHT
THOSE MILKMEN
ROBBERS. MAM
SURE IS GOOD!

THE
END

THE BIG EIGHT!

Tops in monthly comic magazines!



NOW ON SALE EVERYWHERE!



FANTASTIC FACTS



GHOST SHIP!

IN NOV. 1872, ON DEC. 5 A BRITISH SHIP SIGHTED HER OFF HER COURSE -- THE BRITISH CAPTAIN BOARDED HER AND FOUND EVERYTHING IN PERFECT CONDITION BUT NOT A SINGLE PERSON ABOARD. HER LOGS SH. WED NO HINT OF TRAGEDY. LATER WERE FOUND 10 DRY AND MEAT WERE PARTLY FINISHED / TO THIS DAY NOBODY KNOWS WHAT HAPPENED TO THE CREW OF THE "MARY CELESTE"?

THE "MARY CELESTE" SET SAIL FROM NEW YORK BOUND FOR GENOA

ON DEC. 5 A BRITISH SHIP SIGHTED

HER OFF HER COURSE -- THE BRITISH CAPTAIN BOARDED

HER AND FOUND EVERYTHING IN PERFECT CONDITION BUT

NOT A SINGLE PERSON ABOARD. HER LOGS SH. WED NO

HINT OF TRAGEDY. LATER WERE FOUND 10 DRY AND MEAT

WERE PARTLY FINISHED / TO THIS DAY NOBODY KNOWS WHAT

HAPPENED TO THE CREW OF THE "MARY CELESTE"?

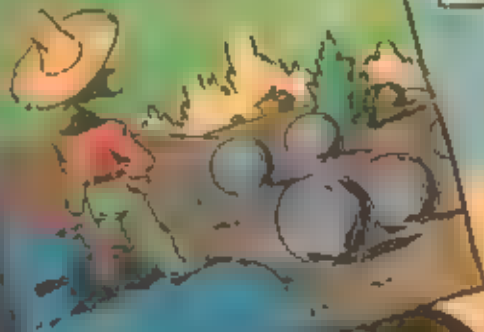
HAVE YOU
BURN USING
MY RAZOR,
DEAD?



RAZORS

MADE OF BRONZE
WERE USED MORE THAN
5000 YEARS AGO

GIGANTIC CANNON BALLS
7.5 METERS - 20
TONS - WAS ATTEMPTED THE
W. L. A. - 1864 - 1865 - 1866
ABD. 1864 - 1865 - 1866
MINNEAPOLIS
KANSAS



THE BARREL CAME UP A FOOT OR
THE 24.5 FT. D. 7.5 FT. H. -
\$7500 - 1864 - 1865 - 1866
RAIN TO 100 FT. - 1864 - 1865
EVEN YEARS

BATMAN

ROBIN

THE BOY WONDER



SAID ABOUT THIS SOMEONE FROD SOME
ATTENT ON TO ME THE PAPER ON WHICH
THIS BATMAN MAGAZINE IS PRINTED AND
IF YOU CANT SEE ANYTHING TALKING ABOUT
A SHEET OF NEWSPRINT THAT YOU DONT
KATE A SECOND LOOK EXCEPT FOR THE
WOODS AND PICTURES - WHY THAT JUST
PROVES YOU HAVENT BEEN AROUND
EVER SINCE I WAS A TALL YOUNG SPENCE
TREE IN THE BIG WOODS I'VE SEEN
THINGS THAT WOULD CURL YOUR WHISK-
ERS IF ANY - AND THEN I SAW THE
BATMAN BATMAN AND THE RECKLESS
ROBIN PUNCH THEIR WAY RIGHT ALONG
WITH ME FROM LOGGING CAMP TO
PULP MILL TO THE THUNDERING PRESS
ROOM LIFE DEATH THE LLS CHILLS
YOU'LL LEARN SOMETHING ABOUT ALL
OF THEM AS YOU TURN THE PAGES AND
READ "THE ADVENTURES
OF THE BRANCHED TREE!"



MARK WELL THIS TREE
WITH THE DAGGER-
SHAPED SCAR CUT
DEEP IN THE LIVING
WOOD

FOR HERE BEGINS A DEADLY NORTH
WOODS DZAWA OF RAZOR-EDGED WITS
AND STEEL-HARD WEAPONS.

BY WONDER WHAT
THIS DAGGER MARK
BANE MEAN
SCOTTY?

POOSH YONSON-- I
PINNA DOOB! IT
MEANS NASTH N' AT
A- I SOME BARE
HUNSMAN HACKED
IT HAVN NA
BETTER WEE
R R R K

AH WEE-- 'Y'LL MAKE GOOD PULP
PAPER AT THE MILL FOR A IT'S
USLY CARE R R N'

AY BANE GLAD HUNTING
SEASON OVER! WOODS NOT
BANE SAFE FOR LUMBER
TACKS WHEN CITY FALLERS
YUMP ARO NO SHOOT?
ING EVERY NO
IN SIGHT

BUT OLAF YONSON HAS SPOKEN
TOO SOON FOR A CERTAIN BREED
OF CITY FALLERS' DOES NOT RECOG
NIZE ANY CLOSED SEASON ON ITS
ILLEGIT MUNT NO EXPEDITIONS

IT'S RIGHT CLOSE BY KEEP YOUR
EYES SKINNED FOR THE SIGN OF THE
LUBERN-- I HEAR THE PASSER
SOMEBODY CHOPN

WHY'D THEY HARTY PICK THAT TREE
OUT OF THE WHOLE FOREST? YA DON'T
THINK THEY'RE WISE DO YA BULL?

SHUT UP AND GET READY
TO PLUG EM WIT' DAT SILENCED
R'FLE WE'LL DO OUR THINKIN
AFTER WE'VE FINISHED DIS
JOB

A MUFFLED POP-- AND A
STEEL-JACKETED SLUG
BORES INTO A MAN'S
DEFENSELESS BACK!

AAAA-A-AA--

EH?
YON WHAT
AHS YE?

REACH FOR DA
SKY OR Y'LL
GET A TASTE
O' DA GAME

WHY YE MUR R R ROSEIN' GUNS
O' BATAH YELL NA HAS THE
SATISFACTION O' SEEN THE PRIDE
O' GLEN CAMERON GROVEL APOSS
YE2 TOWARDLY WEAPONS

I'LL BREAK YE WITH BARE FISTS - AAA-A-AA-

OKAY-- YA'EE ASKIN' FOR IT?

WHY DIDN'T YA LET ME
USE TH'S? I THEY'LL HEAR
THAT SHOT AT THE
LOGS N'
CAMP

NOT FAR AWAY TWO OTHER CITY FALLERS HAVE
INVADED THE BIG WOODS IN SEARCH OF
NOTHING MORE SENSITIVE THAN RELEVANT ON --

A LOT OF HELP
YOU ARE

PLAY HIM
EASY! DON'T LET
HIM BREAK
YOUR TRICKS!

— BRUCE WAYNE WEALTHY SPORTSMAN, AND
HIS YOUNG WARD DICK GRAYSON!

OLIVER QUARENTA PLUNGES AS OF, THE PAIR
BELOVES THE FAMOUS CRIME CRUSHING TEAM
OF BATMAN AND ROBIN!

I STILL CAN'T
FIGURE OUT
WHY YOU N-
SIST ON PLAS-
ING THESE
BOYS
ALONG

I CAME UP HERE TO FISH,
ROBIN - AND I'M NOT
GOING TO MISS ANY
CHANCES

PRETTY
EM?
LISTEN

CRACK!

A SHOT
SOME
HUNTER
MUST BE
STRETCHING
THE
SEASON!

HUNTER NOT-NG!
THAT WAS A .45
CALIBER PISTOL - -
AND A PISTOL SHOT
USUALLY MEANS
TROUBLE

AND TROUBLE
MEANS ACTION
FOR US!

LOOK - CITY GANGSTERS - AND THERE
ARE TWO LUMBERJACKS ON THE GROUND,
DEAD OR WOUNDED

HERE'S WHERE
I CATCH A
WHOPPER.

A BONDING RIFLE
PAYS OUT A
THIN SILKEN LINE
AND..

YIPE! I'M
SHOT!

WHAT'S
HAPPENIN'?

BEFORE THE SHOCK OF THE SURPRISE HAS WORN
OFF, TWO FIGURES OF FIGHTING PURY CHARGE
THE CRIMINALS.

GOOD FISHING UP HERE
- AND GOOD
HUNTING

WHA--!
DA
BATMAN!

AN'
ROBIN!

WELL WELL -- IF IT ISN'T A FELLOW-CITIZEN
OF BOTHAM CITY -- **BULL BERTON!**

"WISH I WAS
SOMEBODY ELSE."

"TOO BAD
I DIDN'T WEAR
MY
HOSNAILED
BOOTS"

A STORM OF SNARLING GLASS PRIVES THE
DYNAMIC DUO TO COVER.

IF I GET THE
BATMAN, I'M
GONNA HAVE HIM
STUFFED FOR A
TROPHY!

THIS WILL BE
GOOD IF IT
WORKS!

A PERFECT
CAST-- BUT I'D
HATE TO HAVE TO
EAT WHAT I'VE
CAUGHT.

HAW,
HAW!
MISSED
ME!

OW! WHO THREW
THAT STICK O'
DYNAMITE?

WE GOTTA
BEAT IT!

ENTER
THEM
ROBIN!

YARE
TELLIN'
ME!

A LOAD OF SAWN LOGS LEFT BY WORK-
MEN AT THE SOUND OF THE DINNER
BELL BLOCKS THE TRAIL...

MAKE IT FAST, YOUSE BUTS
I GOT AN IDEA HOW TO STOP
THE BATMAN AND ROBIN!

I HOPE YA
A N'T
KDD N'!

YOU'D SAVE YOURSELVES
A LOT OF TROUBLE BY
GIVING UP NOW, BULL!

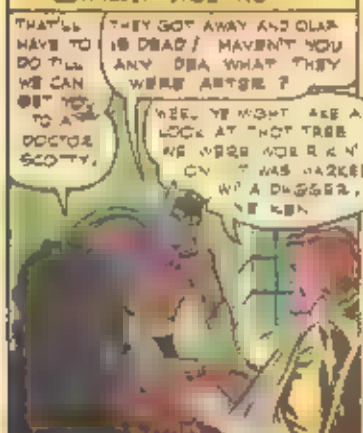
I'D
SAVE
TROUBLE,
A N'
SIGHT--



---TROUBLE FOR YOU!

OOOO

LATER WHEN FIRST AID HAS BEEN ADMINISTERED TO THE ONE LIVING VICTIM OF THE COWARDLY SHOOTING



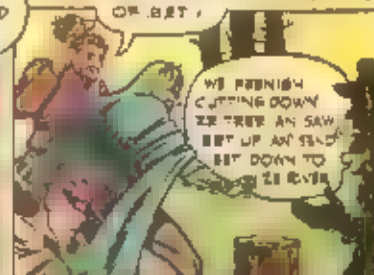
THEY'LL HAVE TO DO THE WORK WE CAN GET TO A DOCTOR SCOTTY.

THEY GOT AWAY AND OLAF IS DEAD! HAVEN'T YOU ANY IDEA WHAT THEY WERE AFTER?

WELL, YE MIGHT TAKE A LOOK AT THAT TREE WE WERE WORKING ON. IT WAS HARKED UP A DAGGER, YE KEN.

BUT THE DAGGER-BRANDED TREE HAD ALREADY STARTED ITS JOURNEY TO THE MILL

OUT HERE! BATMAN -- I'VE BEEN AN' I SEE IF MARK, BUT WE SINK NOZZLES OR BET!



WE REFINISH CUTTING DOWN THE TREE AN' SAW SET UP AN' SEND SET DOWN TO THE TREE



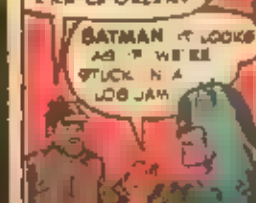
MINUTES LATER.

ROBIN! SAY SOMETHING! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT FELLA?

HUNT! MAND ONTO MY HEAD. BATMAN -- IT WON'T STOP SPINNING!

THEN WE'D BETTER LOOK IN THE RIVER

YOU WOULD NOT FIND I'VE BEEN A LITTLE MORE MESSY. THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF LOGS EACH EXACTLY LIKE THE OTHER.



BATMAN -- LOOKS AS IF WE'RE STUCK IN A LOG JAM



AT THAT VERY MOMENT

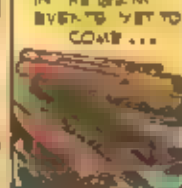
AND WE CAN DO SO TO TRY TO TRACK DOWN BULL AND HIS MOB

LOG JAM IS RIGHT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO TURN OVER EVERY SPACK IN THAT MASS WORKS FOR A DAGGER CARRY

ANYWAY THESE FISH DIDN'T GET AWAY -- AND THEY TASTE TWICE AS GOOD NOW THAT WE'VE WORKED UP AN APPETITE

DO THEY? WE'VE BEEN SO BUSY TRYING TO THINK WHY SOME STERS SHOULD BE INTERESTED IN ONE PARTICULAR TREE OUT OF A MILLION. I HAVEN'T NOTICED

WHAT STRANGE SECRETS, SYMBOLIZED BY THIS GHOSTLY SON OF THE DAGGER HAS LURED DESPERATE MEN FROM THE UNDERWORLD HAUNTS TO COMMIT A CRIME IN THE DEEP WOODS! LET'S SEE IF WE CAN FIND A CLUE IN THE GRIM EVENTS YET TO COME...



THAT NIGHT VIOLENCE FLARES IN A NEARBY TOWN

SURE I WOKEN ON THE JOBS AT THE PAPER MILL. WHY? OOOOO

YA KEEN YA USED TO WORK THERE

COME ON-- WE GOTTA KNOCK A COUPLE MORE OFFR DA PAYROLL

THE FOLLOWING MORNING

THE MILL MAN

YOUR ALL HERE? OUR LOG HANDLERS MET WITH MYSTERIOUS ACCIDENTS LAST NIGHT AND ARE LAID OFF

AIN'T THAT A COINCIDENCE?

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS MAKE SURE THE LOGS KEEP GOING UP THAT BELT INTO THE MILL.

WOTTA SKEAK WE CAN'T NEE DA LOGS WE'RE AFTER

YOUR JOB IS TO WATCH THE LOGS AS THEY MOVE TOWARD THE CHOPPER AND TAKE OUT THE ONES WITH KNOTS OR ROTTED PLACES CUT THE IF SOUNDS SPOLLED P ACES OUT WITH THIS SAW AND PUT THE LOGS BACK!

HE'D BE CHOPPED TO BITS AND WE SKED UP THAT SULL ON ONE INTO THE TIGESTER VAT WHERE SULLERL ACC WOULD FLASH THE LOGS

GEE-- A GUY WOULDN'T STAND MUCH CHANCE FHE FEL N

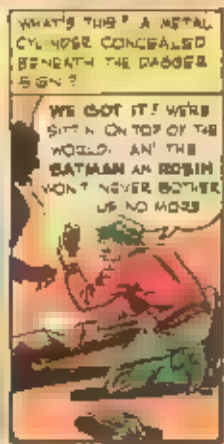
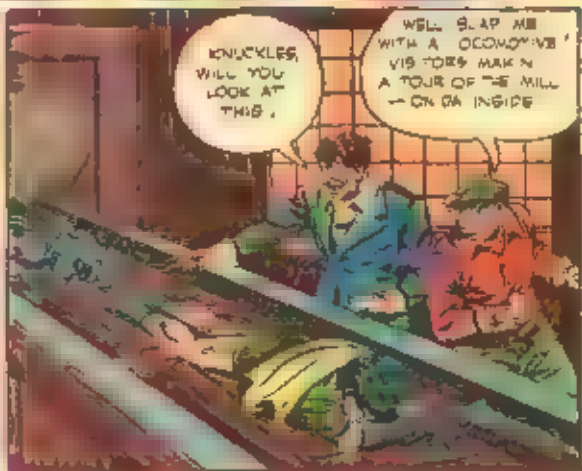
FROM THE DIGESTER, THE SULL ON GOES THROUGH BLEACHING AND TINTING LATS AND INTO THE PAPER MACHINES. IT COMES OUT OF THE ROLLERS AT THE END AS FINISHED PAPER

MEANWHILE AT THE LOCAL POLICE STATION

NO I AIN'T SEEN NO SUSPICIOUS CHARACTERS-- BUT SOMEBODY BEAT UP SEES OF THE PAPER MILL WORKERS AN SENT EM TO THE HOSPITAL LAST NIGHT

HAHAHA--THAT MEANS THE PAPER MILL WOULD HAVE TO--RE-USE NEW MEN I GOT THE PICTURES

PO TELL!



FLASHING SON-
NINE ENIGMS
SHALL MURDER
BY AS THE WELDER
OR THE FATHERS
ARE BORN OWER
A THREE-STAR

OH-M-M-M
- WHAT
A HEADACHE
GOT
TO SLEEP.

NO CHANCE OF REACHING JIM IN
TIME... BUT I CAN BLOCK THE
OPENING TO THE CHOPPER WITH
SMASHING HIS SKULL

WAKE UP BATMAN! 97
SECONDS CAN MEAN THE
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LIFE
AND DEATH

WHA---
A LOG CONVEYOR IN
A JUMP L
ROBIN!

SUPPLY BUNKERS ARE TAKEN
TO THEIR UTMOST AS THE
DARK-KLAD YARR OF
HURLE LOGS FASTER THAN
THE WHIRLING TEETH OF
STEEL CAN CHURN THEM

PREFER A LOGJAM WAS
NEEDED NOW'S THE
TIME

WH-WHAT'S
HAPPENING?

JA, OH -
% BATMAN
DON'T - KE THE
DEA O' SC N'
"ROUGH DA MIND

COME ON
FELLA
WE'VE GOT
A LITTLE
CHORE TO
DO.

DIG & YOUR
FALL - YA
SHOULD'VE HAD SENSE
ENOUGH TO GIVE 'EM
AN EXTRA WHACK
AS DEY WENT BY
GIMME DAT CYLINDER

GREAT SLOTT--
I ALMOST
HAD ME

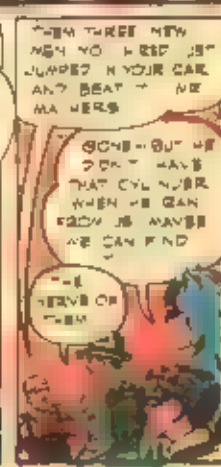
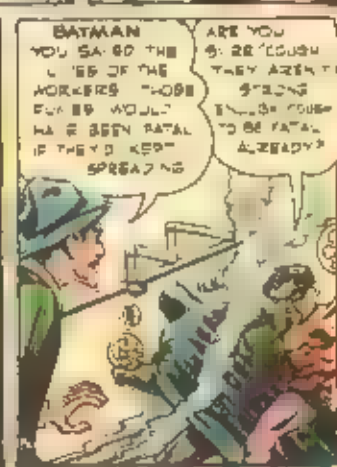
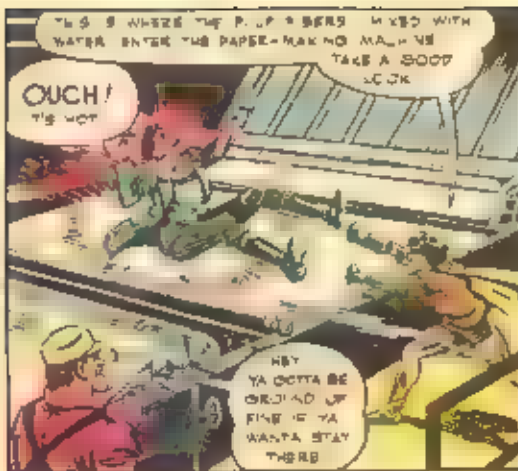
YOU SKUNKS ARE SEND
THROUGH THE M...
THIS TIME ON A
PERSONALLY CON-
DUCTED TOUR

AND I'VE
M...
ANYTHING WE'LL
DO IT TWICE

GET 'EM
BEFORE
THEY GET
%

THIS IS THE WAY THEY
WENT THE LOGS BEFORE
THEY TURN THEM INTO
DUFF GET

YEAH
12345



BUT A LAZEBUL SEARCH FAILS
TO REVEAL B THER TUS ANY
TERIOUS CYLINDER OF THE
FUGITIVE CRIMINALS --- AND
TWO DAYS LATER

I THOUGHT THAT
FISHING TRIP WOULD
DO YOU GOOD, BRUCE
-- BUT YOU'VE BEEN
NERVOUS AS A CAT
EVER SINCE WE
WENT BACK

ALL GIVE
YOU WEEB
GUESSES
WHY

I KNOW T BURNS
ME UP LOSING THOSE
KILLERS TWICE IN A
ROW AND NOT BEING
ABLE TO FIND THAT
LYNCHER THEY
LEFT BEHIND

THEY
DIDN'T TAKE IT WITH
THEM BUT I'M NOT
SO SURE THEY LEFT IT
UP THERE EITHER I
THINK BULL PUT SOME
THING EXTRA CLEVER OVER
ON US



NEWSPAPER FROM THE PERKING
MAYBE T'S THE
SAME WE SAW
BEING MADE

HUH?
I
WONDER

MIDNIGHT -- AND THE NIGHT WATCHMAN AT THE
PENTON PLANT HAS UNEXPECTED VISITORS

TAKE US TA DA PRESS
ROOM SEET OR D'Y WANT
SOMEBODY TA TAKE YA TA
A CEMETERY?

D-DON'T
SHOOT I'LL
T-TAKE YOU
ANYWHERE
YOU SAY



AH -- WHERE WE ARE
DA GREATEST TRUCK
OF DA YEAR -- I DO
SAY IT MYSELF

OKAY POP --
TAKE A
REST

YOU'RE
A GENIUS,
BULL!



IT AIN'T
HERE!

NOT HERE, EITHER
GOSH WHAT
DID IT GOT
LOST?

KEEP
YOUR
SHOTS
ON



A FORTUNE FROM NOW ON WERE ALL BIG SHOTS

I'M GONNA BUY A
TICKET TO SOMEPLACE
WHERE DA BATMAN
WOULDN'T NEVER GET
UP WITH ME

I'M GONNA
BUY ME
A YACHT!

A GOOD SEA SQUOSS -- BUT
A TERRIBLE JUMP

NOW LET'S GO OUT AN
LEAVE 'EM OUT--
HMM? DAY
SHADDER.

LIKE A GREAT BIRD OF PREY A MANTLED
FIDLES SWOOPS--THE BATMAN!

NO NO
IT CAN'T
BE
TRUE

LOOKS
LIKE I'M
JUST
IN
TIME

AM I GOIN' CRAZY
-- OR DOES IT
LOOK LIKE A BAT?

BUT IT IS TRUE
MY FINE-
FEATHERED
FRIEND

A FEW
OUNCES
OF LEAD
WILL TIP
THE BALANCE
ONE WAY

IF I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN
HOW I USED TO SWIM
LOOS-- MAYBE I CAN
BREAK TH'S UP

WHAT YA
DUCK FOR
BATMAN? YA
SCARED O' BULLETS?

ONLY WHEN
I SEE BULLETS
THAN YOL
SHOOT THEM

HEY KID-- WATCH
WHERE YOU'RE GOIN'
YO'LL HURT SOMEBODY

I'M JUST
PLAYIN'
STEAM-
ROLLER

NO
WORK
ROOM!

DOGS--
SLAPS

YOU TWO BACK FOR MORE?
THIS IS LAST YOL
GET A WHOLE

OUCH YA
DONE THAT
OH O' BULLETS



I'LL
TAKE
THAT!

NOT
WHILE
I'M
CON
SCOUS



YOU'RE GONNA GET TANGLED
UP WITH A MESS O' HIGH-
SPEED ROLLERS IF YA DON'T
LOOK OUT

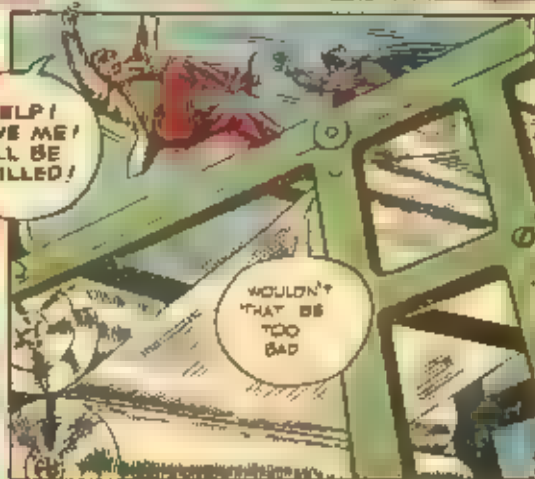
I'LL TAKE
THE CHANCE
YOU WILL



OKAY --
THANKS
FLORAL!

HELP!
SAVE ME!
I'LL BE
KILLED!

PLEASE
DON'T
FLOWER!



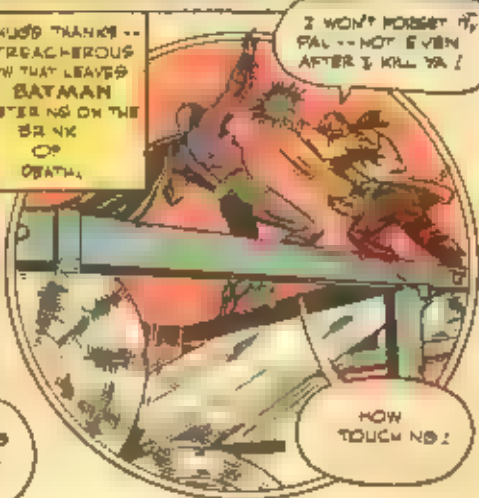
WOULDN'T
THAT BE
TOO
BAD



YA SAVED
ME!

A THUGS THANKS --
A TREACHEROUS
BLOW THAT LEAVES
THE BATMAN
TESTING ON THE
BRINK
OF
DEATH.

I HOPE
NOBODY GIVES
ME A MEDAL
FOR IT.



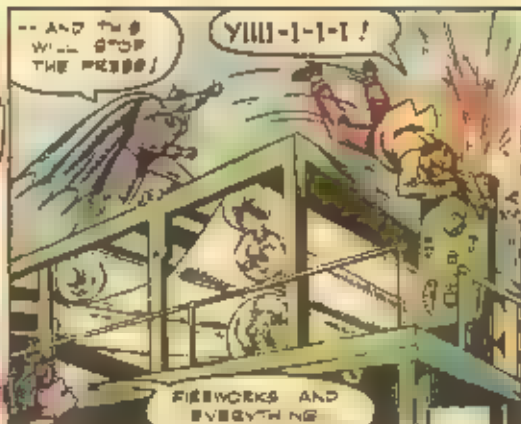
I WON'T FORGET IT,
PAL -- NOT EVEN
AFTER I KILL YA!

HOW
TOUGH NO?



THIS ONE WILL STOP YOU--

HUH?-- SOMETHING'S WRONG



YIII-I-I-I!

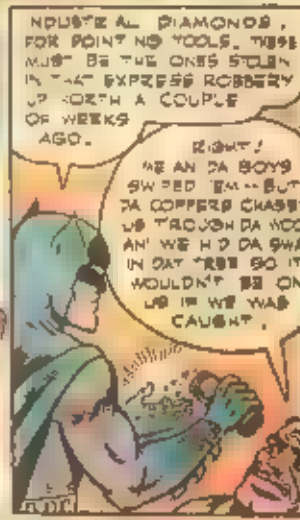
-- AND THE WILL STOP THE PRESS!

FIREWORKS AND EVERYTHING



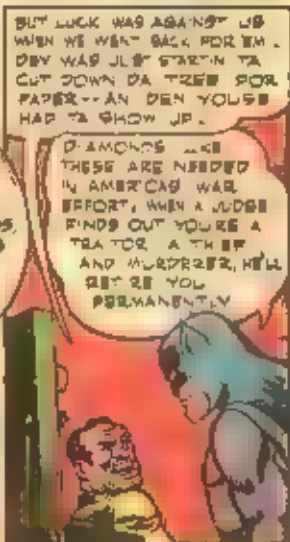
I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND.

TAKE IT! NO TOWN'S NO TOWN WHAT I BEEN GOIN' TROUGH!



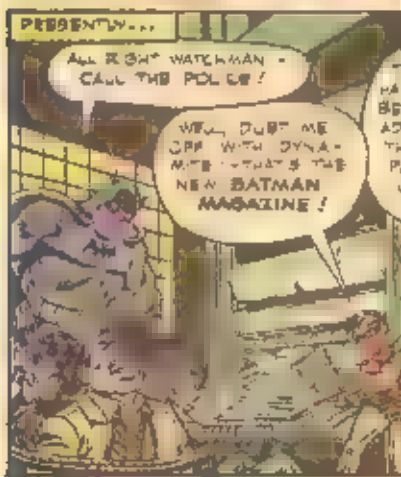
INDUSTRIAL DIAMONDS, FOR POINT NO TOOLS. THESE MUST BE THE ONES STOLEN IN THAT EXPRESS ROBBERY UP NORTH A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO.

RIGHT! WE AN DA BOYS SWAPED 'EM-- BUT DA COPPER CHASED US TROUGH DA WOODS. AN' WE H'D DA SWAG IN DAT TREE SO IT WOULDN'T BE ON US IF WE WAS CAUGHT.



BUT LUCK WAS AGAINST US WHEN WE WENT BACK FOR 'EM. DEY WAS JUS' STARTIN' TA CUT DOWN DA TREE FOR PAPER-- AN DEN YOU'VE HAD TA SHOW UP.

DIAMONDS-- LIKE THESE ARE NEEDED IN AMERICA'S WAR EFFORT. WHEN A JUDGE FINDS OUT YOU'RE A TEA TOR, A THIEF AND MURDERER, HE'LL SET RE YOU PERMANENTLY.



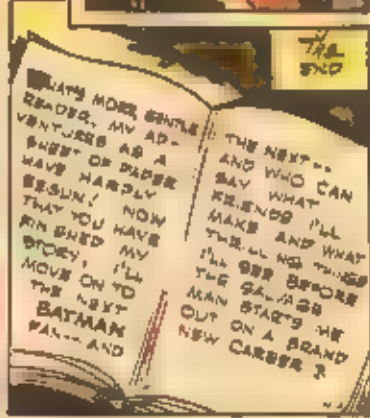
PRESENTLY...

ALL RIGHT WATCHMAN - CALL THE POLICE!

WELL, DURT ME OFF WITH DYNAMITE-- THAT'S THE NEW BATMAN MAGAZINE!

THIS IS ONE 99¢ WE HAD PLENTY TO DO WITH BESIDES FURNISHING THE ADVENTURES WE WATCHED THE TREES CUT AND THE PAPER MADE AND DELIVERED-- AND WERE THE FIRST READERS.

DON'T FORGET SUBSCRIPTIONS-- WE STARTED EVERYTHING TELLING THE PRESS



WANTS MORE GENTLE READERS. MY ADVENTURES AS A SHEEP ON PAPER BEGUN! NOW THAT YOU HAVE RUN SHED MY STORY, I'LL MOVE ON TO THE NEXT BATMAN PART-- AND

THE NEXT-- AND WHO CAN SAY WHAT FRIENDS I'LL MAKE AND WHAT THE ALL NO THING I'LL SEE BEFORE THE GALAXY MAN STARTS HE OUT ON A BRAND NEW CAREER?

THE END



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FROM THE BIBLE"**

MOTIVE

by Eric Carter

IT was all figured out. Not a loophole, Spencer told himself exultantly. Just as he did every weekend, Junius would come up here to Spencer's lodge. But this weekend, because Junius, in y three hours before, had found out about the shortages in the working capital, wouldn't be pleasure bent.

No, Spencer avowed, he'd be bent for death.

And why not? If Junius's lips were sealed, he, Spencer, would take over the company. The books could be changed after the funeral, and nobody would ever know.

A quarter of a million dollar theft! Spencer smiled, recalling the agitation earlier in the day when Junius had discovered the depredation. The fool—why hadn't he been content in handling his end of the business? Did he have to snoop into the books?

Spencer's lips tightened. It was a good thing he had managed to convince Junius to keep quiet and come out as usual. That story about knowing something was wrong, too, had allayed Junius's fears. He had agreed to come out as usual, for the weekend. He did not know that Death, and not Spencer, would be his host.

Wrapped now in the protective darkness of his parked car, Spencer looked down at the illuminated dial on his wrist watch. A quarter of nine. In a few moments, it would be time to start, to establish the alibi.

Spencer smiled craftily. It had been a good idea to be seen in a neighboring town, making a purchase for his laboratory. After that, a breath-taking ride to make time to this spot. He had cut ten minutes off the normal time, had been

willing to gamble against a cop failing him.

And he had won. Luck was riding with him, Spencer told himself. Promptly at nine o'clock, Junius would ascend the long stone steps to the house. He would use the pocket flashlight he always insisted, grumpily, on shining to ascend the treacherous steps. Junius had always claimed the steps were inadequately lighted. "It's a wonder the law doesn't make you do something about your lights, Spencer."

The law! Sheriff Tate? Once more, Spencer smiled. That bumpkin wouldn't even realize that his friendship with Spencer would tend to make the latter's alibi the more plausible.

Spencer opened the window of his warmly-heated car, shivered as a blast of air struck him. Outside it was bitterly cold, the third day of the cold snap. Sudden'y Spencer went rigid as a piercing whistle reached his ears. It was the Moran tug on its homeward journey. It always reached the drawbridge at this time and, ten minutes later, was in its slip. Moran prided himself on keeping a schedule as rigid and inflexible as a railroad's.

Unmindful of the cold now, Spencer left the window open, looked at his watch. Another whistle reached his ear. That would be the tug safely through the drawbridge—and now Spencer could start back because he could say that he saw the tug in its slip at its regular time.

And when Spencer reached the house, he would find Junius dead.

Oh, it was ingenious, all right. Only a man like Spencer could have thought of it. Now, driving furiously along, he wondered

how he had. Forgetting to return the fountain pen he had taken from Junius' desk a few days ago had been another stroke of luck. The pen was now lying on one of the steps leading to the house. Junius' flash couldn't help picking it out and Junius would bend down, pick it up, and there would be a terrific explosion.

Junius never would know that a wire ran from the pen to high explosives hidden behind the house entrance. And no one would be able to figure it out, because the whole town knew that Junius and Spencer were dealers in high explosives. Maybe, some might say, poor Mr. Junius was carrying a sample with him.

As simple as that! Spencer looked at his speedometer, slowed down the car. It was still a five minute drive to the house, and the time was one minute to nine. Despite his cold-blooded planning, Spencer felt a shiver run through him as the watch hand stole to nine.

And then he heard it. A single, powerful explosion, and far ahead a bright light illumined the sky!

A half hour later, after having viewed the wreckage of his house, Spencer sat in Sheriff Tate's office, his head bowed, his face as haggard as he could make it. "It's horrible, horrible," he said huskily. "Poor Junius. He was a good friend as well as a fine partner." He turned reddened eyes to the angular-jawed Tate. "I might have been there myself except that I had to go into town to make some purchases."

"Here, here, Mr. Spencer," Tate said sympathetically, "you can't blame yourself. And I know how you feel. But it's a good thing for us you were there to tell us who that poor, blown-to-bits unfortunate was." He shook his head. "Mr. Junius was a fine man, an obliging fellow, too. I'm going to miss seeing him every weekend. We sure got along fine."

Through half-closed eyes, Spencer studied Tate's homely face. "Sure," he thought, "you

both got along fine because you both had the same simple kind of mind. Neither of you would suspect me. Not you fools—you trust everyone." Aloud, he said:

"We'll both miss him, Sheriff, very much."

Tate nodded slowly, drummed on the desk with long, slender fingers. Something glinted from between his thumb and forefinger and as he extracted it, a puzzled frown came over his face. It was a small piece of metal, and he had been playing with it all the way back to the office. "What I can't understand," he said, "is why Mr. Junius should be packing explosives that dangerous around. He always seemed level-headed to me." He thrust the piece of metal at Spencer and said: "I could have identified him by this, I guess, if you hadn't come along."

His eyes watched Spencer as the latter, looked curiously at the metal.

But Spencer suppressed a start as he recognized the object. The clip from a fountain pen. With an effort he controlled himself, and his eyes and voice were steady as he said to the Sheriff: "What is it?"

Tate didn't answer. He seemed lost in thought. Then, suddenly, he said: "You say you didn't see Mr. Junius this week? You weren't in the office?"

"That's right," Spencer said, his eyes narrowing. No one had seen him when he had visited Junius at the plant. It had been night and he had stopped off after the theatre, used the private entrance. Junius had asked him to drop in for a minor consultation.

Now, he studied Tate covertly. What was this yoked driving at? He'd better put him right on that alibi.

"No, Sheriff," he said. "I haven't seen him. You know how cold it has been, too cold for going out. I do a lot of our work here. Tonight would have been our first meeting in a week." Glibly he went on, told of being in town, of driving back. "As a matter of fact," he said, "I saw the Moran tug going into

its slip at the time of the explosion. He stood to himself as he saw the tug move the Sheriff's forehead. And he knew that he had an a-s-u-r-e-a-b-l-e, because the Sheriff and every one else was aware of the tug's berth.

Spencer sighed. "Poor Junius," he said. His fingers touched the pen clip. "I'd like to keep this, Sheriff," he said, "if you don't mind. To remember Junius by."

"It was a keep," the Sheriff said. "That clip belongs to me!"

"To you?" Spencer's facial muscles tightened. What was this fellow talking about? And why were the Sheriff's eyes suddenly hostile? Why was he getting to his feet? What had slipped? Spencer tried to force a smile. "You're joking," he said lazily. Then his eyes almost popped from their sockets as he saw the Sheriff's gun toward the words of conversation.

"No, Spencer, I'm not fooling. This is my pen and Mr. Junius took it into the city last week to have it repaired for me. He said he expected you, and would ask you to bring it out."

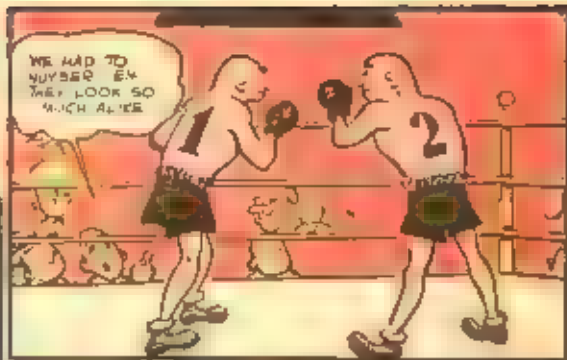
Sheriff Tate's hand darted out, a manacle snapped on the strong Spencer's wrist as the county law officer forced the panting wild-eyed man into a chair.

"I don't know what this pen's got to do with it," the Sheriff said slowly. "But I aim to find out." His usually humorous eyes were hard and cold. "Seems to me you went to a lot of trouble to get an alibi that didn't come off, Spencer."

Spencer's chest heaved. "You can't prove a thing," he cried. "You can't prove a thing. You're mad!"

"Mebbe," the Sheriff said. "But you can't prove you saw the Moran tug getting into its berth tonight, Spencer. Because it's still on the other side of the drawbridge and can't get through because the cold weather froze up the mechanism tonight. And mebbe tomorrow you and me are going to look into Junius' and Spencer's business and mebbe find a motive for murder!"

LAFFS



FAST AS A BULLET!



THAT'S THE SORT OF
HIGH-SPEED ADVENTURE
YOU CAN COUNT ON FINDING
EVERY MONTH IN THESE
TWO SWELL MAGAZINES!

BROTHER---
I KNOW EVERY
WORD OF THAT
TO BE TRUE!



CLANCY

THE COP

THIS HEADACHE
S KILLING
ME

AN OLD DESERTED HOUSE
MAYBE THE JESTERS GIVE
ME HELP MY HEADACHE

GOSH IT'S DARK
MAYBE THE PLACE IS
HAUNTED !!

I'D HATE TO MEET
UP WITH A GHOST !

YEOW

SOMEONE HIT ME!
LET ME OUTA
HERE !

SEE - IN ALL THE
EXCITEMENT MY HEADACHE
DISAPPEARED
THAT'S SWELL !!

IF IT WORKED ON ME
IT JUST TO WORK ON
OTHER PEOPLE !

HEADACHE
CURE
10¢

CLANCY THE COP



NOW ON SALE
EVERYWHERE!!



BATMAN

ROBIN

THE BOY WONDER

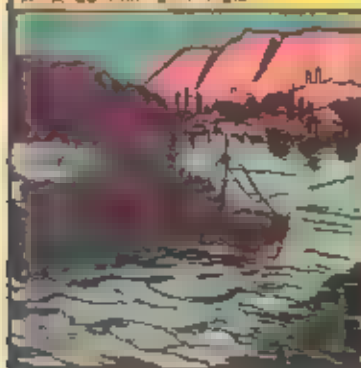
TWO A PERFECT FIGHTING TEAM AND THREE'S A CROWD IN THE CASE OF THE BATMAN AND ROBIN -- AND WHAT A CROWD WHEN THE THIRD IS THE SINGULAR GENTLEMAN YOU ARE ABOUT TO MEET -- LANDING IN THE MIDDLE OF VIOLENCE AFTER A VIOLENT CROSSING OF MANY OCEANS NONCHALANTLY ATTRACTING VIOLENCE WHEREVER HE MOVES THIS AMAZING FELLOW GIVES AMER CAN ACE CRIME-SNAGGERS THE MOST VIOLENT SURPRISE OF THEIR LIVES -- AND MAKES THEM LIKE HIM FOR IT YOU HAVE NEVER BEFORE ENCOUNTERED ANYONE QUITE LIKE HIM BUT YOU'LL BE GLAD TO SEE HIM AGAIN

AND NOW SIT TIGHT FOR --

**NEXT COMES
ALFRED ! !**

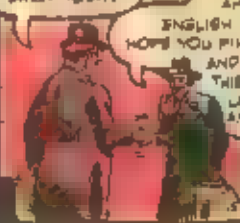


NIGHT--AND A SMALL PASSENGER VESSEL ENDS A PERILOUS WARE--THE CROSSING OF THE ATLANTIC AT A GOTHAM CITY PER



TWO SHIPBOARD ACQUAINTANCES SAY GOODBYE NEVER DREAMING THAT THE HAND OF FATE WILL CAST THEM TOGETHER AGAIN SOONER THAN THEY THINK

THE PART OF THE WAY, HE LEDUC HAS BEEN A PLEASURE TALKING TO YOU--AND I WISH YOU THE BEST AND ALL THAT BALLY TOSH.

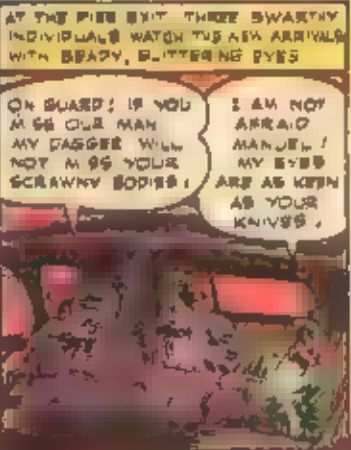


YOU'RE GASTON LEDUC, EH? AND THIS IS YOUR PERMIT TO ENTER THE COUNTRY WITHOUT UNDERGOING INSPECTION ALL RIGHT--YOU MAY PASS



TEY AS I WOULD I COULDN'T MAKE HIM TALK ABOUT HIMSELF I'VE HALF A MIND TO FOLLOW HIM NOW!

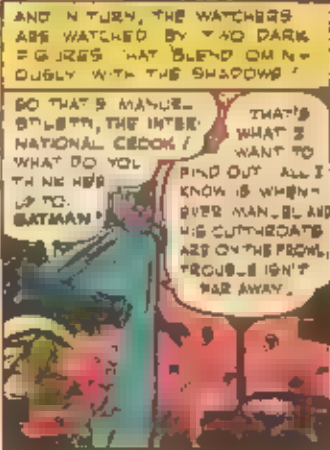
WELL IT'S A FREE COUNTRY AND YOU'RE IN IT, NEXT!



AT THE FIVE SIXTY THREE SWARTHY INDIVIDUALS WATCH THE NEW ARRIVALS WITH BEADY, BLITTERING EYES

ON GUARD! IF YOU MISS OUR MAN MY DASSER WILL NOT MISS YOUR SCRAWNY BODIES!

I AM NOT AFRAID MANUEL! MY EYES ARE AS KEEN AS YOUR KNIVES.



AND IN TURN, THE WATCHERS ARE WATCHED BY TWO DARK FIGURES WHO BLEND ON NOUGLY WITH THE SHADOWS!

SO THAT'S MANUEL--BUT THE INTER-NATIONAL CEDOK! WHAT DO YOU THINK HE'S UP TO, GASTON?

THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO FIND OUT ALL I KNOW IS WHEN EVER MANUEL AND HIS CUTTHROATS ARE ON THE PROWL, TROUBLE ISN'T FAR AWAY.



PRESENTLY TWO YEARS LATER ALREADY SO IT WON'T MATTER IF I TAKE AN HOUR OR TWO AGES TO FOLLOW LEDUC AND SATISFY MY CURIOSITY!

IS HE, REBOARD THE VALISE!

HE SHALL NOT ESCAPE US!



GIVE ME THE VALISE QUIETLY, AMIGO, AND PERHAPS I SHALL LET YOU LIVE

OTHERWISE YOU ARE DEAD LIKE A DOG

EH-WHAT? OH--A BALLY BACKUP, SUCH AS WE'VE SEEN IN THE CINEMA

I'M AFRAID YOU BLIGHTERS
WILL HAVE TO WAIT TILL
I'VE FINISHED MY BOOK

TWO TORNADOES OR JUSTICE
THE BATMAN AND ROBIN
RASH TO THE RESCUE OF THE
SCARED BUT NONE TOO LATE
YET

GOOD FOR
HIM WHO
EVER HE IS
WE COULD
ALMOST SIT
THIS ONE
OUT

DIABLO
FOR THAT YOU SHALL
NOT DIE LIKE A DOG
BUT LIKE A PESS!

-- BUT I GOT EVERY DAY I GET
A CHANCE TO OUTH MY MARK ON
A RAT RAT LIKE MANUEL SOULETTI

MY
WORD

YES
FOOTWORK
CHUM--
BUT HOW DO
YOU LIKE
MINE?

DRIVE LIKE
MAD PABLO!
THEY ARE THE
BATMAN AND
ROBIN!

WHAT
NO

CAN'T
WE CHASE
THEM?

MISTER
BATMAN AND
MANSTER ROBIN--
I AM DEEPLY
NOUGHTED TO YOU
AND SHALL REPAY
YOUR CHIVALRY

BY THE
WAY WE GOT
TO THE BATMOBILE--
THEY'D HAVE
DISAPPEARED

FORGET IT
BY THE WAY--
WHAT WERE
THEY
AFTER?

MY VALISE SIR--
BUT THERE'S NOTHING
OF VALUE INSIDE IT
WHAT A JOKE ON THEM
IF THEY'D GOT IT HA HA

AND WHAT A
JOKE ON YOU IF
THEY'D KILLED
YOU.

AS FOR REWARD N YOU--I MYSELF
AM AN AMATEUR CRIMINOLOGIST
OF LITTLE EXPERIENCE BUT MUCH
TALENT AND I SHALL GIVE YOU
THE BENEFIT OF MY ABSENCE
IN YOUR INVESTIGATIONS IN MY
SPARE MOMENTS!

WELL, YOU SEE, WERE
SO USED TO OUR OWN
METHODS THAT ANY
FRESH "TALENT" MIGHT
DIZZLE US!

BUT YOU
MIGHT
CALL ON
US SOME
TIME AND
TALK
IT
OVER

BY JOVE, I
SHALL YOU
MAY EXPECT
ME AS SOON
AS I HAVE
ATTENDED TO
A LITTLE MATTER
OF BUSINESS

LATER AS THE ADVENTURERS PREPARE TO GO TO BED

THAT WAS A GOOD ONE BRUCE TELLING HIM TO CALL ON US WHEN NOBODY KNOWS WHO THE BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE OR WHERE THEY LIVE

OH WELL MAYBE HE FANCES HE'S SMART ENOUGH TO FIND US

IMAGINE A DAWG LIKE HIM FINDING US WHEN SOME OF THE SMARTEST MEN IN THE WORLD HAVE TRIED AND FAILED! OH OH-- SOMEONE'S AT THE DOOR!

ANSWER IT

RINGGGG

WHO CAN IT BE AT THIS HOUR?

PROBABLY SOME OF YOUR NIGHT OWL SOCIETY FRIENDS!

THE NEXT MORNING

GOOD EVENING, GENTLEMEN! TRUST I HAVEN'T DISTURBED YOUR REST

WOW

ALL JUST SET MY LUGGAGE DOWN, IF YOU'LL PERMIT ME-- AND THEN WE'LL DISCUSS MY OUTRIS!

WHAT A TALE I HAD GETTING HERE, MR. WAYNE! IT WAS NECESSARY TO WAIT A YEAR FOR A SHIP TO ISLAND AND THE ONE I FINALLY GOT STAYED BY WAY OF THE INDIAN OCEAN

BUT-- BUT-- BUT--

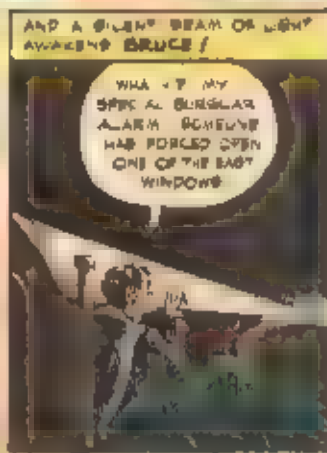
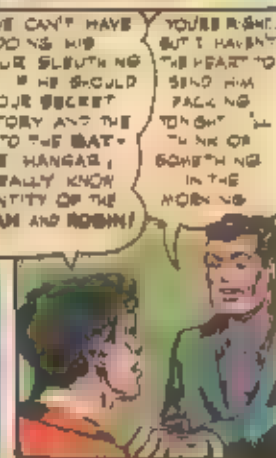
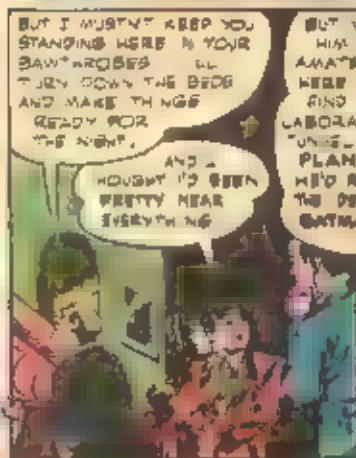
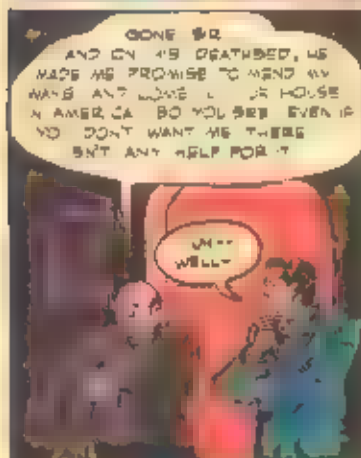
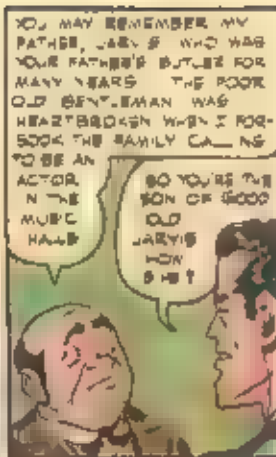
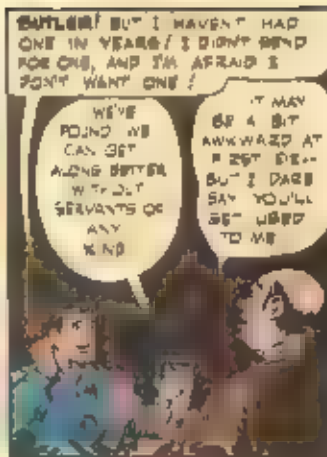
TWO SHIPS WERE TORPEDGED UNDER ME AND I SPENT A FORTNIGHT ADRIFT ON A LIFE RAFT BUT MY MOST MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE HAPPENED WITHIN THE HOUR WHEN THUGS ATTACKED ME AND THE BATMAN AND ROBIN PROVE THEM OFF

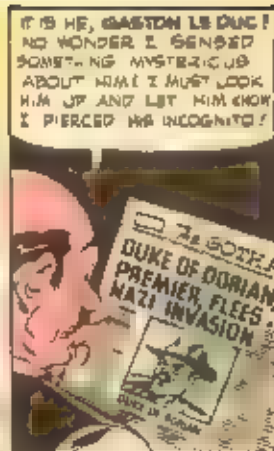
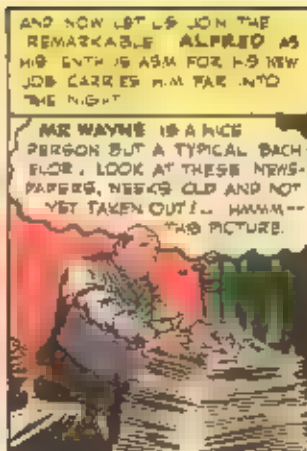
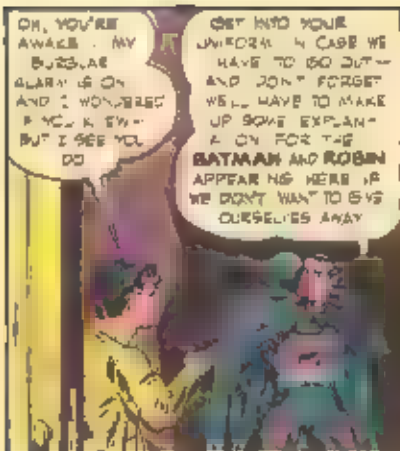
WHY, THEN-- YOU DIDN'T KNOW--

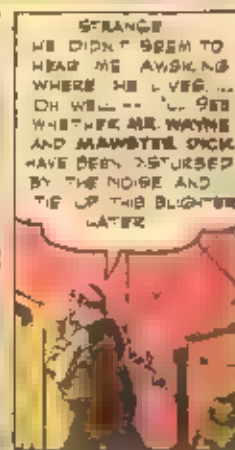
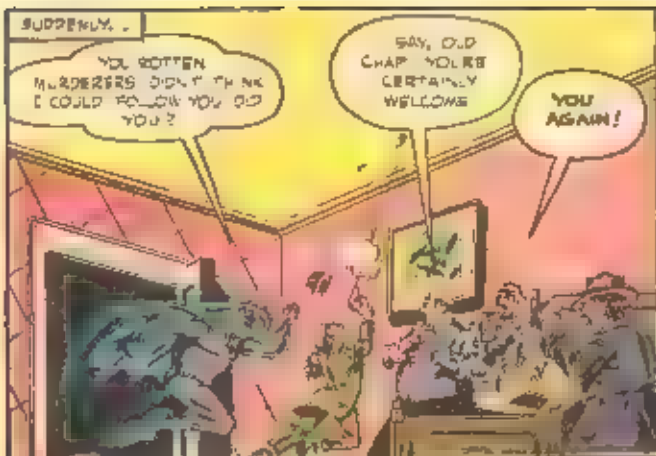
QUIET DICK!

WE ALWAYS ADMIRER THE BATMAN AS A BROTHER CRIMINOLOGIST Y'KNOW-- BUT WOULD YOU BELIEVE IT WHEN HE ASKED ME TO CALL, I QUITE FORGOT TO ASK HIS ADDRESS

WELL!









PLEASE--
 MAWSTER DICK
 I A AND MR.
 BRUCE HAS ANSWERED
 THE BELL
 IS TRY NORTHY
 OF MY GREETING
 TENTS



I SHALL
 CONSULT MY
 DETECTIVE BOOK
 AND-- EH, WHAT
 FOR MY SOUL THE
 BLUNDER HAS
 REVIVED AND IS
 COMING AWAY
 ME

SO---THE
 PLEASURE OF
 KILLING YOU HAS
 BEEN DELAYED
 BUT NOT
 LOST



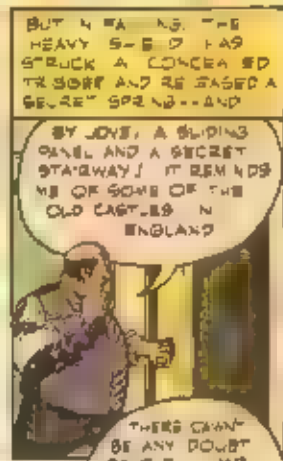
A
 SCOP
 TROUING
 WILL PROVE
 YOUR PLAN
 MY MEN
 OUCH!

I
 HAVE A
 S A
 ANSWER
 FOR THAT
 CUNSY
 B. ON



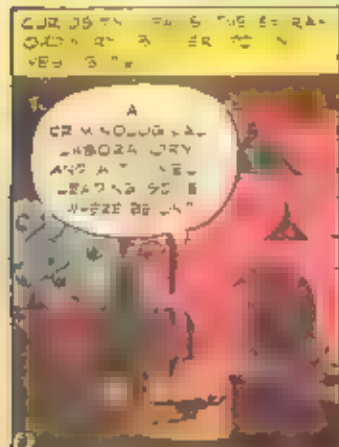
AAAAA!

WELL WELL--
 IT APPEARS A
 MISS IS AS
 GOOD AS A
 KNOCKOUT
 HA HA HA
 A J25 I MUST
 SPEAK IF
 FOR THE
 AMUSEMENT
 OF MR.
 WAYNE!



BUT MY FRIEND, THE
 HEAVY S-E-D HAS
 STRUCK A CONCEALED
 TRICK AND REVEALED A
 SECRET SPENDING--AND

BY JOVE, A SLIDING
 PANEL AND A SECRET
 STAIRWAY! IT REMINDS
 ME OF SOME OF THE
 OLD CASTLES IN
 ENGLAND

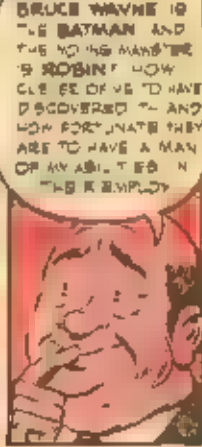


A
 CRIMINAL
 LABORATORY
 AND A
 LABORATORY
 WERE BEING



NAN
 UNDERGROUND
 HANGAR
 A L-S-5
 SH CHED
 ON

A PLANE WITH
 BAT-SHAPED WINGS!
 IT MUST BE THE
 FAMOUS BATPLANE
 I'VE HEARD SO
 MUCH ABOUT I
 DO BELIEVE I'M
 GOING TO
 MAKE AN
 AMAZING
 REVELATION



THERE CAN
 BE NO DOUBT
 ABOUT IT--MR.
 BRUCE WAYNE IS
 THE BATMAN
 AND THE NO ONE
 MASTER
 OF ROBIN! NOW
 CLEARLY HE HAS
 DISCOVERED THE
 AND HOW
 FORTUNATE THEY
 ARE TO HAVE A MAN
 OF HIS ABILITY IN
 THE EMPLOY

MEANWHILE, NEVER DREAM OF THAT THE ALL-IMPORTANT SECRET OF THEIR DOUBLE IDENTITY HAS BEEN PERILED BY A STROKE OF LUCK. THE BATMAN AND ROBIN JOIN IN HOT PURSUIT OF THE FLEEING MANUEL.

THERE THEY ARE-- RESPOND--
TURNING THAT CORNER AHEAD. IF WE DON'T CATCH THEM NOW, WE MAY NEVER HAVE ANOTHER CHANCE.



MOMENTS LATER

THERE'S THE CAR-- BUT WHERE ARE THEY?



I CAN'T THINK OF ANY BETTER HIDEOUT THAN AN ABANDONED THEATER.

STEEL MUSCLES FORCE A LOCKER DOOR AND THE DARK, DOWNTOWN VENTURES NO COBwebs-DRAPED DARKNESS.

GROOBY PLACE, BUT IT'S BETTER NOBODY'S BEEN HERE FOR YEARS.

YOU'D LOSE NO MONEY-- IF YOU ALPHED WOULD KNOW BETTER-- SEE NO THERE FOOT-PRINTS IN THE DUST.



BRZZ-RR- I CAN HEAR THE GHOSTS OF DEAD PLAYS MOANING.



THERE'S A STRANGE WHIRRING SOUND COMING FROM SOMEWHERE.

NOW, TOMAS!



LOOK OUT-- ROBIN!

A STRANGE SOUND IN DEET-- AND AN OMINOUS ONE-- FOR THIS MADE BY WHIRLING ENDS OF WEATED ROPES SWUNG BY AN EXPECT HAND-- THE SHADOWS OF A GHOST.

TOO LATE! THE NEXT INSTANT, HISsing COILS WHIP AROUND THE LIMBS AND BODIES OF THE STARTLED CRIME-CRISHERS.

WHA--? A BOLA!



I CAN'T MOVE MY ARMS OR FEET! I'M FALLING!



AS FINE A CAST AS WAS EVER MADE-- NOW TO FINISH THEM!



NOT YET-- LET US DO A LITTLE KILLING AT ONCE AND DISPOSE OF THESE BODIES TOGETHER-- THESE SPOID CUES WILL BE SAFE IF WE TIE THEM TIGHTER-- EN-- HOIST THEM INTO THE AIR.

SOUND AND
GASSED THE
CAPTIVE PERSON-
S ARE HOISTED
AJOY

AT LAST YOU HAVE
BEEN OUTWITTED,
BATMAN! YOU CANNOT
SHOUT FOR HELP--AND
IF YOU BREAK YOUR
BONDS YOU WILL
BE DASHED TO
PIECES BY THE
FALL

SOON WE
SHALL BURN
THE THEATRE ABOUT
YOUR EARS - BUT
FIRST, WE SHALL
BEING A THEATRE
VICTIM TO SHARE
YOUR CREEPY
CATS

WE HAVE LEARNED THE THIRD MAN'S
IDENTITY AND PRESENT ADDRESS
FROM THE LABELS ON THE VALISE
WHICH GAVE US SO MUCH TROUBLE!
THEY FORGOT A CODE
MESSAGE SENT BY OUR
CLEVER CO. BARBLES
ABROAD

DEATH
FOR YOU
AND A VAST
FORTUNE FOR US.
IS IT NOT FROLL?

LEFT ALONE, THE FLIGHT OF
THE BATMAN AND ROBIN
SEEMS HOPELESS

WE'VE BEEN IN
TIGHT SPOTS BEFORE
BUT I CAN'T SEEM
TO RECALL ANY
TIGHTER THAN
THIS

IF ONLY
THEY HADN'T
BAGGED UP,
IT MIGHT HELP
TO TALK THINGS
OVER

OUTSIDE THE ANCIENT THEATRE
THE TWO CRIMINALS ARE
JOINED BY THEIR COMPANION

WE THOUGHT THE
POLICE WOULD HAVE
YOU BY NOW AND
WE WERE HEART-
BROKEN BECAUSE
YOU WOULD MISS
YOUR SHARE OF
THE SWAG

YOU MEAN
YOU'RE
HEARTBROKEN
BECAUSE I
WENT TO CLAIM
IT... IT WAS
A SIMPLE
MATTER TO ES-
CAPE FROM THAT
DIGNIFIED
BUTLER

WHILE BEHIND A CONVENIENT
BARRIER

FOREGOING NOBLES, I
LET THE BLIGHTER ESCAPE
SO I COULD FOLLOW HIM. THE
BATMAN AND ROBIN MUST BE
NEAR AND I MAY AS WELL LET
THEM SEE THAT I'M ON THE JOB.

OR PERHAPS THE BATMAN HAS
BEEN HERE AND GONE. NO
SIGN OF HIM. HAHAM--QUITE
A WHILE SINCE WE STOOD
BEHIND THE FOOTLIGHTS

ONCE A
MUSIC HALL
ACTOR ALWAYS
A HAM! IS A
SAYING THAT
WOLDS GOOD
NEED AS
EVENHOURS

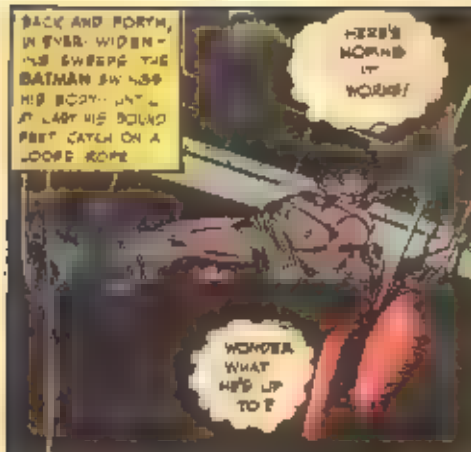
PUT ME IN
MIND OF THE
TIME I PLAYED
THE ROLE OF A
COCKNEY BUTLER
IN A HAUNTED
HOUSE. HOW
DID IT GO
ARK--WHY'S
THAT NOISE?
CAN IT BE
ANOTHER
SPIRIT COME TO
HAUNT ME?

HIGHLY REVEAL AN
UNAPPROPRIATE
ALDENCE HEARS
LINES OF LONDON
MELODRAMA

ONLY HED
FORGET THE
CORN AND
LOOK THIS
WAY

THERE
MUST BE
SOME WAY
TO ATTRACT
HIS ATTENTION--
MAYBE IF I
START
SINGING

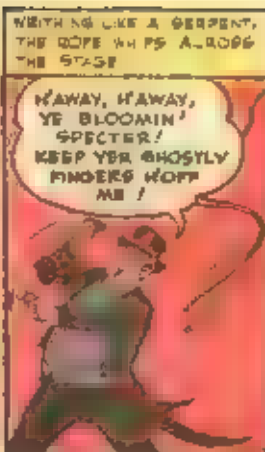
H'YAM KARRIED
WUP WITH GHOSTS, SO H'Y
H'AM! H'Y SHALL TURN
IN MY NOTICE!



BACK AND FORTH,
IN EVER-WIDEN-
ING SWEEPS THE
BATMAN SWINGS
HIS BODY UNTIL
AT LAST HIS BOUND
FEET CATCH ON A
LOOSE ROPE

HERE'S
MORNING
IT
WORSE!

WONDER
WHAT
HE'S UP
TO?



NOTHING LIKE A SERPENT,
THE ROPE WHIPS AROUND
THE STAGE

HAWAY, HAWAY,
YE BLOOMIN'
SPECTER!
KEEP YER GHOSTLY
FINGERS OFF
ME!



OH-H-H-H!
IT'S REALLY
HAPPENIN'!



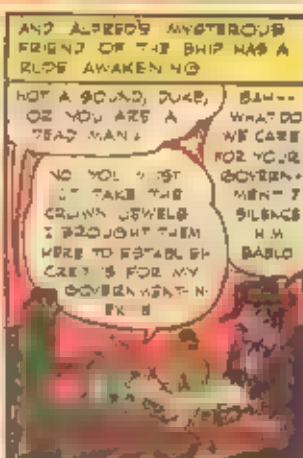
WELL
FOR A MOMENT
I THOUGHT--
BUT... WHY,
THERE ARE THE
BATMAN AND
ROBIN IN
DISTRESS!



AND AT THIS
VERY MOMENT,
MANUEL AND
HIS THUGS ARE
ENTERING AN
APARTMENT IN
AN EXCLUSIVE
NEIGHBORHOOD

GENTLY!
IF WE AWAKEN
THE OTHERS, WE
SHALL HAVE TO
USE OUR GUNS.

AND
THAT MIGHT
BRING
THE
POLICE



AND ALREADY MYSTEROUS
FRIEND OF THE SHIP HAS A
ROPE AWAKENING

NOT A SOUND, DUKE,
OR YOU ARE A
DEAD MAN!

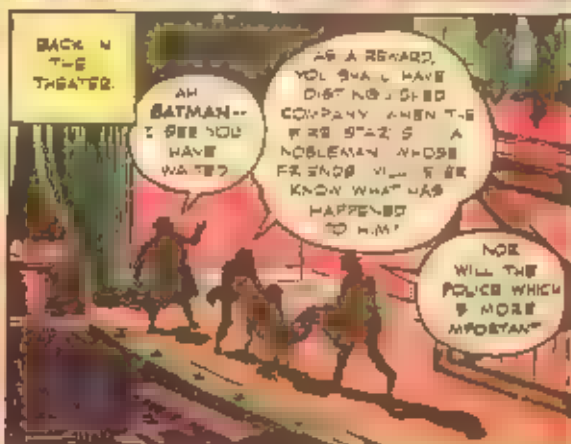
BAM--
WHAT DO
WE CARE
FOR YOUR
GOVERN-
MENT? SILENCE
H.M. BASCO

NO YOU MUST
NOT TAKE THE
CROWN JEWELS
I BROUGHT THEM
HERE TO ESTABLISH
CREDS FOR MY
GOVERNMENT-
FRIEND



TO THINK WE BROUGHT
THOSE JEWELS SECRETLY
HALF AROUND THE
WORLD ONLY TO LOSE
THEM AT THE END
OF THE JOURNEY
SHOWS WHAT SHARP
EYES AND EARS THE
UNDERWORLD HAS

AND IT SHOWS
HOW PROMPTLY
WE HAVE ACTED!
ANOTHER TWO
HOURS AND THE
JEWELS WOULD HAVE
BEEN IN A SAFE-
DEPOSIT VAULT!

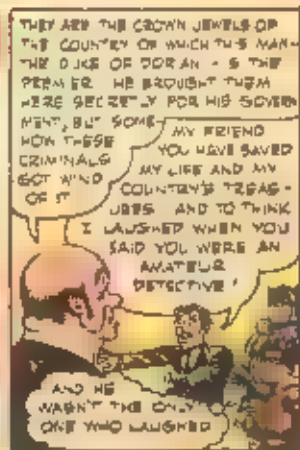


BACK IN
THE
THEATER.

AH
BATMAN--
I SEE YOU
HAVE
WAITED

AS A REWARD,
YOU SHALL HAVE
DISGUISED
COMPANY WHEN THE
FIRE STARTS A
NOBLEMAN WHOSE
FRIENDS WILL SEE
KNOW WHAT HAS
HAPPENED TO HIM!

NOW
WILL THE
POLICE WHICH
IS MORE
IMPORTANT



THE FOLLOWING EVENING...

ALFRED'S PRIDEY PROUD SINCE WE GAVE HIM FULL CREDIT FOR THIS CASE! I REALLY THOUGHT HE'D DONE A GREAT JOB ON DETECTING, TILL IT TURNED OUT HE GOT ALL HIS INFORMATION BY ACCIDENT!

FOR AWHILE, I WAS AFRAID HE'D FIND OUT WHO WE REALLY ARE-- BUT IF WE'RE CAREFUL, IT WILL BE SAFE TO LET HIM STAY, SINCE HE ISN'T TOO BRIGHT!

BIG PARDON, SIRS... YOU'LL BE GOING OUT DIRECTLY, AND I THOUGHT I MIGHT ASSIST YOU WITH YOUR UNIFORMS!

WHAT'S THIS?

HUH?... THOSE CLOAKS... WHY, WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

THE SEARCHLIGHT WENT ON A FEW SECONDS AGO! I BELIEVE IT MEANS THE POLICE REQUIRE THE BATMAN'S SERVICES!

THE SIGNAL... BUT-- BUT WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH US?

YOU FORGET MY DEDUCTIVE ABILITIES! I HAVE KNOWN SINCE LAST NIGHT THAT YOU WERE THE BATMAN AND ROBIN-- BUT I SAY NO REASON TO MENTION IT TILL NOW!

SOMETHING TELLS ME I WAS WRONG IN WHAT I SAID A MINUTE AGO, BRUCE!

COULD BE!

WELL, YOU'RE ONE OF US NOW, ALFRED! I HOPE YOU REALIZE THAT IF YOUR KNOWLEDGE LEAKED OUT, ROBIN'S LIFE AND MINE WOULD BE FORFEIT. CRIMINALS WOULD HAVE AN EASIER TIME OF IT!

I UNDERSTAND PERFECTLY, AND YOU MAY RELY UTTERLY ON MY DISCRETION! YOUR CLOAK, SIR...

I DON'T THINK WE NEED TO WORRY!

MOMENTS LATER, THE BATPLANE RACES THROUGH THE NIGHT SKY...

AND AS THE PARING HEROES KEEP ANOTHER RENDEZVOUS WITH HIGH ADVENTURE, ALFRED MAKES A COMPROMISE WITH HIS CONSCIENCE!

THEY ARE SO IMPRESSED WITH ME, IT WOULD NEVER DO TO TELL THEM I LEARNED THEIR IDENTITY BY SHEER LUCK! MUCH BETTER TO ACT MYSTERIOUS AND SAY NOTHING!

ALFRED CAN BE USEFUL, AT THAT! HE SAVED OUR LIVES IN THE THEATER! HE MUST BE SMARTER THAN WE THINK TO HAVE SEEN THROUGH OUR DISGUISE!

KEEP AN EYE ON ALFRED! YOU HAVEN'T SEEN THE LAST OF HIM!

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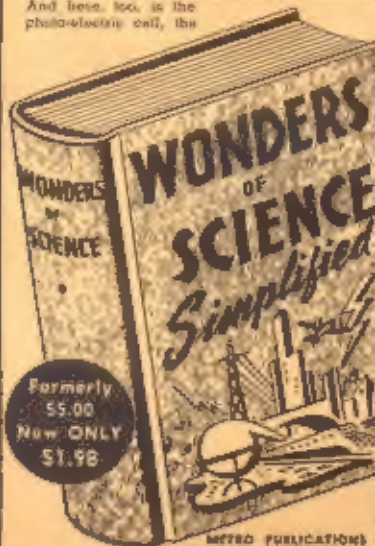
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